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Original Contributions.

ARTICLE XXV.

CASE OF PUERPERAL PERITONITIS.

BY A. NILES, M.D., Quincy, Ill.

Presented to the Illinois State Medical Society, May, 1865.

June 22d, 1863, at 6 o'clock P.M., called to attend in labor, Mrs. Dorsey, a primipara, aged twenty-two years, an American by birth.

The labor was terminated by the forceps at 10 o'clock A.M., the next day, the child living, and apparently well. Erysipelas and puerperal peritonitis being rife at the time, the following prescription was ordered:—

℞. Tinct. Ferri Chloridi,---------- ℥xij
Quinæ Sulphatis,---------- ℥j
Syr. Simplicis,---------- ℥xx
Micæ et Sigma.

Take one teaspoonful three times a day, in one-fourth of a teacup of water.

June 25th. In the afternoon, a chill occurred, followed by fever and pain in the abdomen. At 6 o'clock P.M., I found the pulse 120; the respiration 40, and entirely thoracic; lochia suppressed, and the lacteal secretion diminished. Prescribed at once, one grain of sulphate of morphia, and directed one-half grain to be taken every hour during the night, and fomentations to be applied to the abdomen.

June 26th, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Found the pain gone; the pulse 100 per minute, and the respiration 12; the lochia returned. Slept some during the night. Continued one-half grain morphia every hour, and take six drops of a mixture containing equal parts syrup of squills and Norwood's tincture of veratrum viride, every three hours, increasing one drop at every repetition. 2 *o'clock P.M.* Symptoms not materially changed, but pulse 80. Continue the treatment. 9 *o'clock P.M.* Respiration 12; pulse 80; vomited several times. Continue the morphia, one-half grain every hour, and diminish the veratrum mixture to six drops every three hours.

June 27th, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Complains of pain in the abdomen, which is tender and tympanitic; pulse 100; respiration 20; the nurse omitted the medicine, because of the vomiting and movements of the bowels. Applied the fomentations, and resumed the morphia, one-half grain every hour, omitting the veratrum. 2 *o'clock P.M.* Pulse 100; pain relieved; respiration 15. 9 *o'clock P.M.* Continue the morphia, and resume the veratrum mixture, six drops every three hours, increasing one drop every successive dose.

June 28th, 8 *o'clock A.M.* The patient vomited several times, and had three operations of the bowels in the night. The nurse again suspended the medicine. Pulse 125 in a minute; respiration 25; abdomen tympanitic and tender. Directed the morphia to be given every hour, one-half grain, and not to be suspended without orders; omit the veratrum. 4 *o'clock P.M.* Dr. ROBBINS, in consultation, agreed to continue the morphia, and administer the following prescription:—

℞. Ext. Gelsemini semper fluidi,----------
Tinct. Aconiti,---------- āā℥ij
Tinct. Veratri Viridis,---------- ℥j
M. et S.

Take twenty drops every three hours. 9 *o'clock P.M.* Pulse 120; prescribed a powder, composed of pulv. opii gr. vj, quinæ sulphatis gr. ij, repeated every four hours, with twenty-five drops of the veratrum mixture, and two grains of opium in addition, every two hours in the interval, if necessary to relieve the pain.

June 29*th*, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Nausea and vomiting occurred during the night; tympanites, tenderness, and some pain in the bowels continues; three movements have occurred. Continue the opium, and omit the veratrum mixture. 2 *o'clock P.M.* The patient has but little pain; the nausea has subsided. Directed beef-tea for nourishment. 8 *o'clock P.M.* Pulse 100; respiration 18. Administer four grains of opium, and two grains of quinia every two hours, with ten drops of tincture of digitalis; one grain of opium to be given every hour in the interval, if necessary, to relieve the pain.

June 30*th*. Patient slept some during the night, and is feeling better, but complains of ringing in the ears, and fulness of the head; pulse 80; respiration 16; no pain or tenderness of the abdomen; bowels moved twice last night. Continue the medicine as before, and take the beef-tea freely. 2 *o'clock P.M.* Symptoms not materially changed; is not narcotized; takes more nourishment. Continue the treatment.

July 1, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Appears better; pulse 80; respiration 16; slept some during the night; bowels moved three times. Continue the opium, quinine, and digitalis as before, with the beef-tea. 8 *o'clock P.M.* No pain; the abdomen tympanitic; pulse and respiration as before. Prescribed a powder composed of five grains of opium, and two grains of sulphate of quinine, to be repeated every two hours, with ten drops of tincture of digitalis.

July 2*d*, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Patient better; rested quite well; pulse and respiration as yesterday; lochia continues; lacteal secretion diminished, but not suppressed; bowels moved twice; abdomen tympanitic, but not tender. 2 *o'clock P.M.* Symptoms not materially changed; bowels move too much; add two grains of tannic acid to each of the powders. 8 *o'clock P.M.* Perspiring freely; complains of being weaker; pulse and respiration not changed. Continue the powders of opium, quinia, and tannic acid every two hours, and ten drops of tincture of digitalis every four hours.

July 3*d*. Patient complains of pain and tenderness in the right side; slept some during the night; bowels moved once;

perspiration continues; pulse 80; respiration 24. Prescribed a powder, to be repeated once in from two to four hours, composed of opium, quinine, and tannic acid, two grains of each, taking care to repeat often enough to relieve the pain, adding ten drops of tincture of digitalis every four hours, and continuing the beef-tea. 2 *o'clock P.M.* Pain and tenderness in the abdomen continues; pulse 100; respiration 24. Prescribed powders, composed of six grains of opium, with two grains of tannic acid and quinine, repeated every two hours, with ten drops of tincture of digitalis; beef-tea and whiskey continued as before.

July 4th, 8 *o'clock A.M.* Rested well during the night; respiration 16; pulse 80; some tenderness of the abdomen; no pain. Added to the powders of opium and quinine two grains of persulphate of iron, omitting the tannic acid; treatment, otherwise, as before. 8 *o'clock P.M.* Has no pain; pulse 60; respiration 12. Continue the treatment.

July 5th, 9 *o'clock A.M* Has rested well; no pain; is inclined to sleep; respiration 12; pulse 60; bowels moved once. Directed one powder to be taken every six hours, or oftener, if the pain returns, with ten drops of tincture of digitalis.

July 6th, 8 *o'clock A.M.* No pain or tenderness; bowels moved twice; perspiration continues; pulse 70; respiration 20. Continue the powders, with the tincture of digitalis, every six hours, and repeat oftener if the pain returns; continue the beef-tea and whiskey every hour. 8 *o'clock P.M.* Has some pain and tenderness in the abdomen; bowels moved twice; pulse 80; respiration 20. Repeat the powders every two hours until the pain is removed.

July 7th. Rested well after 2 o'clock; bowels moved twice; no pain or tenderness; lochia and lacteal secretion nearly stopped; pulse 80; respiration 20. Continue the powders every six hours, or oftener if the pain should return, with the beef-tea and whiskey.

No record was kept of the symptoms and treatment after this date, but the patient recovered slowly. The convalescence was retarded by a mammary abscess, and by a cough and expec-

toration, which disappeared after some weeks, under a supporting plan of treatment.

REMARKS.—My first experience with opium in the treatment of puerperal peritonitis, occurred twenty years since, while practicing in Western New York, during an epidemic of erysipelas and puerperal peritonites, which prevailed extensively in that region, at the time. The antiphlogistic treatment, although vigorously pursued, proved entirely unsuccessful, as every patient subjected to it died, as far as I knew. Believing this treatment worse than useless, I determined to try the effects of opium in conjunction with carbonate of soda, thinking that the opium would relieve the pain and render the patient's condition more comfortable; and that the soda might neutralize the poisonous cause which it was supposed might be lactic acid. This patient recovered; but at the time I regarded the soda as the most useful agent. Subsequent experience has taught me to regard opium as the great remedy, commencing with a moderate dose frequently repeated, carefully watching its effects upon the respiration, and increasing the dose until the pain and tenderness are removed. I believe that large doses are safe, provided they do not reduce the respiration too low. In the case reported, it was not at any time reduced lower than twelve in a minute; if necessary to relieve the pain it probably might be safely reduced below that point.

I would not presume to say that blood-letting, purging, and mercury, may not in some cases be useful in this disease, but I must admit that during a practice of thirty years, I have not seen a well-marked case of puerperal peritonitis recover under the antiphlogistic treatment.

Large doses of opium appear to be better borne when combined with quinia, which probably obviates the congestive effects of the opium, besides being useful by its sustaining power. Veratrum viridi, when it does not nauseate, has a beneficial effect in moderating the circulation, but ordinarily I prefer digitalis, as it is not so liable to nauseate, and probably acts as a tonic upon the heart.

ARTICLE XXVI.

ABNORMAL FŒTUS.

By F. R. PAYNE, M.D., Marshall, Illinois.

We recently met with a very remarkable case of an abnormal fœtus, a brief history of which we propose to present to the readers of your Journal.

These freaks of nature are not uncommon; but this case presents a very important fact for the consideration of those engaged in physiological investigations.

It is here demonstrated that a child can live and grow in utero almost to its normal size without a single trace of brain or spinal marrow.

On the 10th day of April, 1865, I was called in haste to see Mrs. D., the mother of four children. She was as supposed eight months advanced in pregnancy, and unnaturally abdominally enlarged. The liquor amnii was thrown off in large quantity, supposed to be at least two gallons, but no uterine pains were felt at the time of the rupture of the membrane. She was not alarmed, but sent for me, with the expectation of the rapid approach of labor. For the last eight weeks, she has suffered greatly; and could not sleep only in her chair or propped up in bed. She had, during this time, excruciating pain in her left side and hips; her feet were unusually edematous. After the discharge of liquor amnii, she could rest comfortably in bed in the recumbent posture; and the pain of her side and hips was relieved.

On the 12th day of April, she felt slight uterine pains, and before assistance reached her a monstrosity was born; also a natural and healthy placenta. She had felt the motion of the child up to the day before it was born. After the birth of the child, the womb seemed preternaturally large, and we suspected that it contained another fœtus; but after thorough examination, the uterus was found freed of its contents, but the walls were unnaturally thick.

The child was dead, but no evidence of decomposition. There was considerable ulceration over the cervical portion of the spine. By careful dissection, we found that the bones of the cranium were almost entirely absent, only a small portion of the inferior margins of the occipital, parietal, and frontal bones could be found, and all of the spinous and transverse processes of the vertebra were absent, consequently there was no spinal canal. The back part of the face was covered with a tough membrane, over which their was an imperfect covering of hair. The bones of the face were nearly natural, also those of the extremities. The evidence is almost positive that the child had not been dead but a few hours.

This family are scrofulous; all of the children have sore eyes and ulcers over the body, but not syphilitic. The muscles of the body, except over the upper portion of the spine and head were normal, and sufficiently well developed. The great point of interest in this case, is how did the child live without a nervous centre?

Proceedings of Societies.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

PROCEEDINGS OF TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY.

The American Medical Association began its Sixteenth Annual Convention at the State House, Boston, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. A large number of delegates and members were present, occupying the entire floor of the Hall, while the galleries were occupied by spectators. The officers of the Convention were as follows:—

President.—N. S. Davis, M.D., of Illinois.

Vice-Presidents.—Wm. H. Mussey, M.D., of Ohio; Worthington Hooker, M.D., of Conn.; William Whelan, M.D., of District of Columbia; J. E. B. Heintze, M.D., of Maryland.

Secretary.—William B. Atkinson, M.D., of Philadelphia.
Assist.-Secretary.—Horatia R. Storer, M.D., of Boston.
Treasurer.—Casper Wistar, M.D., of Philadelphia.

Considerable time was occupied in the registration of the names of delegates, under the direction of Dr. J. N. Borland, of the Committee of Arrangements. At about half-past 10 o'clock, the Convention was called to order, and prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Lothrop, after which Dr. Henry J. Bigelow, of Boston, delivered the address of welcome.

DR. BIGELOW'S ADDRESS.

By direction and under the authority of the Committee of Arrangements, I bid you cordial welcome to the metropolis of New England. Sixteen years ago, these halls were honored by your distinguished presence; and since that time, although a bloody war has devastated the land, twice have you met together, under the sheltering protection of cities far distant from each other, to lay an offering upon the altar of science. We are now once again assembled, to unite in a single common sentiment of congratulation at the advent of peace, for which we have so long watched, and in whose genial sunshine the flowers of science may again expand.

The American Medical Association was at no remote period one of the prosperous institutions of the country. From a small and perhaps doubtful beginning, it had risen by a continuous and steady growth to become one of the successful enterprises of the age. The great cities of the North hailed its advent with acclamation, while further South, the hospitable homes of Richmond and Charleston, of Nashville and St. Louis, were thrown open for its warm and generous reception.

Such was our enviable position four years ago, when the demon of insurrectionary strife exhaled its poisonous and blasting breath over the fairest and most fertile portion of our common country. Cut off from intercourse with their Northern brethren, deprived of the opportunity of attaining light and truth, borne down by relentless exactions and unmerciful conscription, by devastating war and its inevitable sequels of pov-

erty and bereavement, our Southern States have been to us for four years an alien and a hostile land.

During this long and weary period, the steadfast edifice of the Republic has breasted the battle and the storm; an insidious and fatal bolt at last descending to rive its highest pinnacle. We recover from the shock to thank God, that as the tumult ceases, and the smoke clears away, the grand old edifice still lifts its head among the nations, unshaken in its foundations, untarnished in its glory, an impregnable tower of strength, and the hallowed shrine of patriotism. The Southern States have at last succumbed before the persevering valor and terrible unanimity of the North, and the jarring elements have at last found repose, after the convulsions of a great transition period, not in the replacement of the old strata, but by the gravitation of the social system into the final and inevitable equilibrium of human rights.

While the whole country is occupied with the great and difficult problem of reconstructing the Union, that we may come out of this ordeal a wiser, a more stable, and a more prosperous people, it is for us to consider whether we cannot do something to render our own Association a more efficient and a more productive institution. No one can doubt that the medical science of this country, now ostensibly represented in this body, is destined one day to occupy a very high place in the medical history of the world. The American mind, the practical ability of which no one has ever doubted, is devoting itself more and more to the study, by exact experimental observation, of abstract truth, each year augmenting the number of medical philosophers devoted to scientific research at the sacrifice of professional and personal interest. It requires no prophet to foretell that they will identify this Association with illustrious labors whose magnitude and importance will henceforth keep pace with the invigorated growth of the Republic.

And who shall set bound or limit to the vast future of this country? If we believe with the great philosopher that, "in the youth of a State arms do flourish; in the middle age of a State, learning." Who that has witnessed the Titanic conflict

between opposing hosts, such as the history of the world has rarely seen confronted, who that contemplates the magnitude of this broad continent, its millions of acres of waving grain, the treasures buried in its bosom, the iron, the gold and silver, and coal and oil more precious than these; the great liquid highways that bind together the North and South and East and West in one indissoluble bond of natural union; the energy of its people, the enormous territory now first thrown open to the intelligent efforts of free labor, who can fail to discern in these combining elements of prosperity the stalwart youth of a colossal nation? Let your imagination for a moment contemplate the vision of its maturity and manhood; when the great Western Valley shall become a central home of letters and the arts, when the culminating light of science shall there shed its full effulgence, and the youthful giant of the Western hemisphere in his ripened strength and intellect shall challenge the place left vacant for him on our planet.

While the great Republic is accomplishing its political destiny, let us fail not to carry forward our corresponding mission of relieving human suffering, averting human disaster, and retarding human decay; not by deceptive assumptions, not by fallacious assurances, not by the dogmas which professional pride has set up, but by an earnest, impartial, and discriminating pursuit of truth, and by an unwearied effort to divorce popular error from the companionship of legitimate science. It is our duty to lay here in solid labor the foundations of an association which for a century to come shall gather to a focus and radiate the light emanating from the best minds in our profession.

We rejoice to offer an earnest expression of our gratitude to those of our medical brethren, some of whom we are proud to see among us, who have stood so nobly at their posts by sea and land, amid the carnage and the pestilence; and who, surrounded by the distractions of the camp and of the fight, have borne a conspicuous part, both by their active services and their literary labors, in upholding the honor and dignity of their profession.

Not less happy are we to see among us our brethren of those neighboring provinces, from which we have received such kindly tokens in our recent hour of national affliction. The people of this continent have so many common interests and common sympathies, that no political landmarks can render them alien to each other.

I welcome you, gentlemen, in behalf of the Committee I have the honor to represent; of the old Massachusetts Medical Society, who cherishes a matronly regard towards her younger sisters of other States; in behalf of the City of Boston, which extends to you her civic hospitality. Welcome, friends and brothers! assembled from distant regions of our common land—from the great commercial emporium through whose aortic thoroughfare pours the ceaseless tide of nations, or from the city whose traditional brotherly love echoes so freshly from the lips of all our wounded soldiers; you, brothers of New England, born to the common heritage of toil and freedom; you, whose home is by the great Western watercourses, whose blood sprang from the same fountain as our own, and has so often mingled with it again upon the battle field; and you, few we may fear, but thrice welcome, loyal and faithful brothers of the South, who have passed through the long night of trial that you might hail to-day the glorious dawn of liberty. Welcome, fellow-citizens of the redeemed Republic, whose wounds you have bound up in binding up those of her defenders. Welcome, all who honor us by their presence on this auspicious morning, which beholds the sacred emblem of liberty restored to its rightful places, tattered with bullets, stained with blood, fringed with the sable sign of mourning, but spread over every stronghold from which treason had struck it down, and soon to rekindle all its ancient glories.

At the close of Dr. Bigelow's address, the roll of registered members was read by the Secretary.

It was voted that names of persons desiring election as pernent members, on presenting the proper credentials, be handed to the Committee of Arrangements, to be hereafter reported upon.

Communications from absent members were received.

The President then proceeded to deliver the annual address, as follows, which was received with marked approbation, and at its close the thanks of the Association were voted to Dr. Davis, and a copy of it was requested for publication:—

DR. DAVIS' ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION:—In entering upon the discharge of those duties imposed on me by your too generous partiality, one short year since, I was constrained to do it with expressions of deep regret, that the great struggle for subduing a gigantic rebellion was still continuing; and that in consequence, the seats of many of our professional brethren, whose cordial hands and warm hearts had so often greeted us, were still vacant. Those expressions of regret were accompanied by the hope, that before the day for this annual gathering should come, the dark and desolating cloud of war would be broken, and give place to the radiant bow of peace, with former friendships restored and our national union unbroken. It is my highest pleasure to congratulate you, to-day, that what we then so fondly hoped for, is now substantially accomplished. The cherished flag of our country again waves in triumph over every part of our almost boundless domain; and the patriotic legions who have borne it, proudly, on so many bloody fields of human strife, are returning to their peaceful firesides, decorated with wreaths of victory, and enshrined in a nation's gratitude.

But our congratulations, to-day, are still mingled with a deep shade of sadness. Sadness, that so many of our countrymen have been compelled to sacrifice their lives in defence of the integrity and perpetuity of our government; sadness, that so many of our professional brethren have been constrained to abandon the peaceful pursuit of their humane calling at home, and sacrifice comfort, health, and sometimes life, in the noble effort to mitigate the calamities and sufferings of war; and a deeper, more enduring sadness, that to the desperate wickedness of treason, has been added the darkest crime that can disgrace

human nature, the deliberate murder of the Chief Magistrate of this great Republic. Let us hope, however, that in this act, the climax of human wickedness has been reached; that the cup of our national calamities has been drunk to its bitterest dregs; and, with becoming humility, in the true spirit of our humane calling, let us implore the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe to make our reunion one of hearts as well as States; and our great nation, one in which labor shall everywhere receive its just reward, whether in the workshops and humble cottages of the North or on the sunny plantations of the South.

By a natural transition, the mind turns from these reflections to the work of Death in our own ranks, since our last annual interchange of greetings. A few months since, one who has filled the highest position in the gift of this Association, with unrivalled ability, and whose professional skill, ripe scholarship, and noble christian deportment, had endeared him to us all, was called upon to cease his earthly toil, and enter upon a higher and a holier existence. And at the very hour when our profession was bowed in full sympathy with the national grief for the loss of its Chief Magistrate, our cup of affliction was made to overflow afresh, by the final departure of one, who, by universal consent, had occupied, for many years, the highest position, especially in the surgical department of our profession, not only in America, but throughout the civilized world. Need I mention the names of Jonathan Knight, of New Haven, and Valentine Mott, of New York? After long lives, ardently and successfully devoted to the dearest interests of humanity, full of years and full of honors, peacefully they have gone to their eternal rest. But their names, their works, and their noble examples are left to us and the generations that will follow. Nor has the work of the destroyer been limited to these; for within a few months past Thomas D. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, Wm. E. Coale, of Boston, and Sylvester D. Willard, of Albany, all members of this Association, and eminent in the profession, have been released from their earthly labors.

With this slight and imperfect tribute to the memory of those whom we shall see no more in our midst, permit me to occupy

your attention with some reflections upon the past history, present organization, and future prospects of this great National Medical Association. In submitting these reflections, I shall assume neither the character of an eulogist nor a critic, but shall simply endeavor to draw such lessons from the actual results of the past as will aid in the discharge of the duties of the present, that still greater benefits may be reaped in the future.

Twenty years have now elapsed since the Medical Society of the State of New York issued the call for the National Convention, from which our present Association had its direct origin. During that period of time, large, pleasant, and harmonious meetings have been held in almost every section of our widely extended country, and both time and opportunity have been afforded for developing the actual interests and influences involved in our organization. It requires only a brief examination of our past career, to show that both in the principles of our organization, and in the practical results of our annual meetings, three important interests are directly involved; viz.: the improvement of our system of medical education, the direct advance of medical science and practice, and the promotion of social intercourse and fraternal feeling throughout the entire profession. And the thoughtful attendant upon our meetings has not failed to observe, that each of these interests has uniformly attracted a due share of representatives. Indeed, most of the embarrassments attendant upon our past meetings, and the criticisms to which the Association has been subjected have arisen from the difficulty of accommodating interests so important and varied, in such a manner as to satisfy the advocates of each, in the very brief time hitherto allotted to our annual meetings. Thus, whenever medical education became the theme of discussion, those more interested in the reading and discussion of papers and reports of a direct scientific and practical character, were ever ready to restrict debate, refer the subject to committees, or in some other way avoid what they regarded as a mere waste of time. On the other hand, if the reading of an elaborate scientific paper was commenced, the author would seldom complete the first half dozen pages before the zealous ad-

vocate of educational reform would dispose of the whole subject by a motion to dispense with further reading and refer the document directly to the Committee on Publication. While the good-natured lovers of good dinners and sight-seeing would always be ready to aid the other parties with their votes, and to secure the acceptance of every invitation to an intertainment, an excursion, or a public institution.

Under such circumstances, our records soon became cumbered with a multitude of reports and resolutions concerning medical education, and the annual volume of Transactions plethoric with reports and papers that were read to the Association by their titles only; while the social entertainments reached a magnificence and costliness seldom equalled in any other relation of society.

The embarrassments felt from these circumstances led to frequent propositions to change either the constitution of the Association or its rules of business.

To avoid lengthy reports on general topics, all the standing committees on the different departments of medical science were first abolished, and a list of committees on special subjects substituted in their place.

To further economize time, an order was next adopted requiring every report and paper covering more than ten pages of manuscript, to be presented by a brief abstract, merely setting forth its title and contents.

To check the evils of extravagant and costly entertainments, the Committee of Arrangement were instructed to omit all such from the programme of arrangements for all subsequent annual meetings.

The practical results of these changes were by no means satisfactory. The first led to the annual appointment of a long list of committees on special subjects, not one in six of whom ever furnished a report of any kind. The second speedily developed the practice of presenting reports and papers by their titles only, and often accompanied by the acknowledgment that they were still unfinished, followed by a vote that they be referred directly to the Committee of Publication. Thus, in many in-

stances, not only deciding to publish papers of which the Association was profoundly ignorant, but which, at the time, had no actual existence, except in the minds and memoranda of the authors. The adoption of the third, judiciously designed to check extravaganee in social entertainments, has resulted only in exchanging one magnificent public banquet, occupying one evening, for three or four private ones every evening during the annual sessions of the Association. If we add to these considerations the fact that the greater part of the first day of each annual session, embracing one-fourth part of the whole time, has been occupied with preliminary matters of organization, and the election of officers who were immediately required to enter upon the performance of duties for which they were often wholly unprepared, we shall readily perceive the reasons why the practical working of the Association, thus far, has not fully realized the wishes and expectations of many who have labored efficiently for its organization and support.

Some, who entered upon the work with the hope that the Association would be the agency for speedily securing the adoption of a uniform and elevated standard of medical education by all the medical schools of our country, and having in their own minds some favorite plan by which it was to be accomplished, having seen year after year pass by without its adoption, very naturally conclude, from their standpoint of observation, that the Association is a failure.

Others, who entered with equal zeal upon the work of organization, with the hope that it would be the means of establishing in the profession of our country a spirit of original scientific investigation, a more complete elucidation of the causes and laws governing the prevalence of zymotic and epidemic diseases, and a higher standard of medical literature, have found, in our short annual sessions and the little attention actually given to scientific and original papers, comparatively little to sustain their zeal, or to deter them from writing over our portals the word *failure.*

Therefore, it is not strange that we should meet here and there an unfriendly criticism, or the uncomplimentary remark that our

annual meetings partake more of the character of "gormandizing and sight-seeing," than of grave, scientific, and professional inquiry; or in casting our eyes over the assemblages of the last three or four years, we should miss the presence of some who contributed so much to the interest and value of all our earlier meetings. But with a frank admission of the defects and embarrassments in the past practical working of this Association, does the conclusion legitimately follow that it has made so little progress in the accomplishment of the important purposes for which it was organized, as to demonstrate its inutility, or to create a well-founded doubt of its ultimate entire success?

To answer this question without prejudice, it is necessary to keep in mind the distinction between the accomplishment of a given purpose and the particular modes or plans by which it is to be attained. Many of the latter may be tried and fail, and the object sought may nevertheless be fully accomplished. It is probable that three-fourths of those who originally looked confidently to this Association as the instrument for elevating the standard of medical education in this country, entertained the idea that it would be effected by some uniform plan embracing better preliminary education, longer lecture terms, more extensive clinical instruction, and more rigid examinations, to be formally adopted by the schools. And, inasmuch as no such plan has yet been adopted, it is quite natural that those who had been regarding this as the only method for gaining their purpose, should regard the purpose itself as a failure. And yet such an inference would neither be a logical deduction from the premises, nor in accordance with the actual facts as they exist at the present time.

This will be fully apparent to any one who will compare the number, location, and requirements of the medical schools of 1845, with those of 1865. At the former period, from 13 to 16 weeks was almost universally adopted as the length of the annual lecture term. Now, the number of colleges in which the lecture term is less than 18 weeks, are few and unimportant, while some have extended it to five, and others to six months. Then, the number of Chairs, or Professorships, was five and six, leaving the

important branches of Organic Chemistry, Microscopic Anatomy, and General Pathology entirely out, and usually making Physiology only an appendage to the chair of Anatomy. Now, the medical college that does not include all these in its curriculum, would be universally considered as behind the age. At the former period, three-fourths of all the medical schools in this country were so located that their students could have no access whatever to any true clinical instruction at the bedside of the sick. And in those located at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and New Orleans, where adequate hospitals existed, the actual clinical instruction was generally limited to one or two visits to the hospitals each week. Now, this is so far reversed, that two-thirds of the whole number of our medical colleges provide some amount of true hospital clinical instruction, and three of them, at least, are so directly connected with important public hospitals, that their courses of clinical instruction, in all the departments of practical medicine and surgery, are as full and as extensive as any of the other departments of medical science.

The extent and importance of the change in regard to clinical instruction will be rendered still more apparent by another mode of comparison. For instance, at the time of the organization of this Association, not only three-fourths of our medical schools were so located as to afford their students no access to hospitals, but a large majority of the whole number of students resorted to them for instruction. Thus, in the New England States there were, at least, six medical schools, of which only the one in Boston was located within reach of an adequate hospital; and yet its classes were often outnumbered by those at Pittsfield. While at the present time, if I remember correctly, the number of students receiving instruction in Boston, with access to the Massachusetts General Hospital, is nearly, if not quite, equal to that in all the other New England schools put together. The time is fresh in my memory, when the number of students annually assembled in a medical college, located on the bleak hills of Herkimer County, in the State of New York, fully equalled those resorting to the schools directly in the great

metropolis of that State. Now, I think there is not a medical college maintaining an active existence in that State, which does not provide for its students access to a public hospital for clinical instruction.

What is true of New England and New York, in this respect, is equally true of the whole country.

When we remember, that of all the improvements in medical education, demanded by this Association from its primary organization to the present time, none were more prominent, clearly defined, or persistently urged, than an increase in the number of Professorships, with an extension of the curriculum; a lengthening of the annual lecture term; and the addition of full hospital clinical instruction, both in practical medicine and surgery; we see how closely the improvements actually made correspond with the demands of the Association, and how nearly the objects sought have been already accomplished. It is true that they have not been accomplished by the formal adoption of any particular plan or concert of action, and perhaps not wholly through the influence of this Association; but that their accomplishment has resulted mainly from the strong concentration and persistent expression of public sentiment through this Association, there can be no reasonable doubt.

Neither has the influence of our organization upon the progress of medical science and literature been as feeble as many suppose. At the commencement of our associate existence, the number of original American medical works was comparatively small; and the universal complaint was, not only that American talent was spent only in the editing of foreign books, but that our own writers, even of the highest reputation, found it extremely difficult to find publishing houses willing to issue their works from the press. The able reports on this subject, and on medical literature, made to the earlier meetings of this Association, and the consequent general awakening of attention to it, throughout the whole profession, has resulted in so completely reversing the former state, that we now rarely see the name of an American writer appended, merely as editor, to a foreign work; while the medical press of our country literally teems

with original medical works of high merit, in every department of medical science. And not only so, but the shelves of the laborious practitioners of our humane art, throughout the whole country, now contain three American to one foreign work, especially in the departments of practical medicine, surgery, and obstetrics. And whoever examines the series of published Transactions of this Association, will not only find a number of essays, which for scientific merit would do credit to the investigators of any other country, but they will find much additional evidence that attention has been directed to most important inquiries concerning the causes and prevalence of epidemic diseases; the influence of topography and climate on endemics; and the nature and therapeutic value of indigenous articles of the materia medica, not only among our own members, but also throughout many of the State, County, and District medical societies in every part of the country.

Socially, the success of our organization has been all that the most ardent could desire. It has not only removed local prejudices and sectional jealousies, but it has awakened everywhere the most liberal hospitality and the most cordial friendships. It has, indeed, made neighbors and friends of families whose homes are a thousand miles apart; while it has infused new life into many old State and local societies, and stimulated the profession to the formation of many new ones.

From a deliberate and candid examination of the whole past history of the Association, with a full appreciation of the embarrassments arising from short annual sessions, and imperfect arrangements for the transaction of business, I am fully satisfied that so far from having proved a failure, it has made such substantial progress in the accomplishment of every important object of its creation, as to afford the fullest assurance of its final complete success. Hence, instead of entertaining doubts, or yielding to feelings of hesitation or discouragement, every friend of the social organization of the profession, and every advocate of advancement in its educational, scientific, and literary interests, should give it his most cordial support. Instead of abandoning the work of twenty years past, merely because

it is not yet perfect, true wisdom would dictate the careful removal of such hindrances and imperfections as time and experience had developed, that the great and important work itself might be pushed more rapidly to completion.

Having carefully and anxiously watched the progress of this Association, from the incipient steps of its organization to the present time, I trust those assembled on this occasion will pardon me if I devote the remainder of this address to a brief and explicit statement of those measures, which seem to me sufficient, if judiciously executed, to ensure its complete success and perpetuity.

Although it is apparent that most of the evils and embarassments which have attended our past meetings have arisen from an attempt to crowd a consideration of the educational, scientific, and social interests of the profession into the short space of three or four days, yet it is by no means desirable to abandon either of these interests in the future. The exact and all-important desideratum needed at this stage of our progres, is such an apportionment of time to each of these interests as their relative importance demands; and the time allotted to each so systematically used as to develope the highest degree of efficiency in the results. To have a time and place for each legitimate interest, and to keep each in its place, is a matter of paramount importance in an organization as extensive as ours. Happily, the arrangement for attending to the scientific interests of the Association in sections, first carried into effect in 1860, and the amendments to the constitution adopted in 1864, have removed all impediments to the adoption of a most complete and efficient plan of operations at each annual meeting. Let the morning sessions of moderate length be devoted to the general business of the Association, and the consideration of all matters relating to medical education, together with the simple presentation of all scientific reports and papers by their titles, that each may be referred to the section most appropriate for its consideration. Let all the afternoons and evenings, except one evening of each session, be set apart exclusively for the consideration of the scientific interests of the Association in the

capacity of sections. This would leave only one evening of each session to be devoted, in a formal manner, to purely social interests. To some, this limited time may seem insufficient. But, if we remember that all such as are more interested in sight-seeing and mere social intercourse than in the advancement of science and literature, can gratify their preferences at any part of the meeting, without interrupting either the general sessions or the sections, it will be conceded that the time specified is quite as much as the *relative* importance of the interest to be served requires.

But the arrangements for that evening should be such as would permit the most free and cordial intercourse. A public hall should be provided, in which gentlemen and ladies could mingle and promenade freely; where each could seek out his old friends, and make the acquaintance of new ones; where wit, rapartee, and, if need be, songs, sentiments, and speeches could be made to enliven the evening. A simple stand might be placed in some corner, where all who wished could obtain a dish of ice-cream, strawberries or other fruit, and a cup of coffee. But there should be neither ostentatious show, nor rich viands, nor strong drinks, for the acknowledged guardians of the public health should not, especially in their highest representative capacity, themselves publicly violate the plainest laws of hygiene.

That part of our proceedings which has been the subject of most serious complaint, during the last few years, has related to the consideration and final disposition of such reports and papers as related to the scientific and practical interests of the profession. And it may appear to many that the time which has been indicated as proper to devote to those topics is still wholly inadequate for their proper examination and disposition.

If, however, all such papers and reports are called for and referred to the appropriate sections, before the close of the first morning session, as they certainly should be, it is confidently believed that adequate attention could be secured for every subject properly presented for consideration. If the order of business is so arranged as to accomplish this, the sev-

eral sections can commence their work on the afternoon of the first day of each annual meeting, thereby securing from three to four full afternoons and evenings for their important work; and if all the sections are properly organized, and the subjects for consideration judiciously distributed among them, it will be equivalent in practice to a multiplication of these three or four afternoons and evenings by six; or a practical extension of the time devoted to the scientific interest of the Association to three or four weeks.

And, in this connection, I wish to call your serious attention to the more complete and efficient organization of these subdivisions of the Association. As each section is authorized to choose its own officers, and adopt its own rules of action, their existence should, by no means, be regarded as ended at the adjournment of each annual session. But a President and thoroughly qualified Secretary should be chosen for the entire year; and each should adopt a system of well-considered rules which should govern the reading, discussion, and final disposition of all reports, papers, and questions that legitimately come before it. Among the rules thus adopted, should be one requiring every report and paper to be so far complete at the time of its presentation, that if deemed worthy of publication it can be passed from the custody of the section directly to the Permanent-Secretary, without being detained by the author for either revision or completion. Another should peremptorily forbid the reference of any report or paper on a scientific or practical subject, to the Committee of Publication, until the same has been sufficiently examined by the section, to know its length, its actual contents, and the number and character of the illustrations, if any, that are to accompany it. If there should happen to be more papers referred to any one section than could be fairly examined during the time the Association is in session, such surplus papers should be referred to judiciously selected sub-committees, with instructions to complete their examination and report on the same to the Permanent-Secretary within thirty days after the adjournment.

The adoption of such rules, and the rigid adherence of each

section to them, would accomplish two very important objects. First, it would more effectually guard against burdening the Association with the publication of matters appropriate only for the pages of an ordinary medical periodical, and would secure the Committee of Publication against unnecessary delays in the reception of such matter as should be actually designed for publication in the Transactions of each year. Second, by rendering it certain that every report or paper properly prepared and presented in time, would receive a fair hearing and consideration, a very much larger number of writers and investigators of ability would be induced annually to present the products of their labor for the consideration of the Association.

Permit me to make one more suggestion in relation to the sections, namely, that each section should be provided with either a skilful secretary, or a professional reporter, who, in addition to the simple record of proceedings, should preserve a correct summary of all discussions on scientific questions and papers, and report the same to the Permanent-Secretary, that so much of it as was of importance could be published in connection with the papers to which it might relate, in the Transactions of the Association. This would not only preserve many valuable facts and observations in a small compass, but it would present a strong additional inducement for the most active and experienced minds in the profession to attend and participate in the doings of the sections.

I hope the foregoing suggestions will be regarded as worthy of a prompt and careful consideration by the several sections at our present session.

I would also suggest to the Association the propriety of dispensing with the appointment of a long list of special committees annually, which seems to have served little other purpose than to advertise the names of those receiving the appointment; and instead thereof, allow each section annually to select such subjects for investigation, and appoint such committees to investigate them, as they may deem most profitable. This need not interfere in the least with the reception of voluntary communications on any subject, in the same manner as at pre-

sent; and yet I am confident it would insure the selection of more important topics; cause them to be more equally distributed among all the important branches of medical science, and secure their more prompt and thorough investigation.

It should be a leading object of the scientific department of our Association, to awaken and foster in the profession an active spirit of experimental research, and of rigid deductive investigation. It should also exert an important influence in directing such researches into the most profitable channels, by more carefully selecting the most appropriate topics for investigation from year to year.

If each section now provided for by our by-laws would perfect its organization and designate two or three important topics for investigation the coming year, it is certain that it would give to the scientific interests of this Association a scope and efficiency far superior to the present or any previous methods of procedure. It has also appeared to me that such a change might be made in the mode of disposing of the papers presented to this Association, as would liberally encourage contributions, and yet greatly increase the scientific character of our annual volume of Transactions. According to my views, the volume of Transactions published to the world, by such an Association as this, should contain no papers except such as embody a complete deductive review of the topics discussed, developing and establishing important rules of practice; or the results of such well-devised series of experiments or observations as clearly indicate a positive addition to our stock of knowledge concerning some one of the departments of medical science. Such papers and reports as might be presented and referred to the several sections, which though neither complete as deductive essays, nor clearly establishing new facts, yet containing fragmentary items or cases of value, or suggestions worthy of further investigation, should be recommended for publication in such regular medical periodicals as their authors might choose; while such only as were found worthless, should be returned to their authors.

It might be feared by some, that the adoption of such a rule of

proceeding would make our annual volume of Transactions very small. Be it so. It certainly is not the *bulk* of the volume, but the *quality* of the matter it contains, which is to affect both our reputation and our usefulness. Perhaps one of the most important topics connected with medical science, which still needs elucidation, is the connection of atmospheric conditions with the prevalence of certain forms of disease. But to properly investigate that subject, it is absolutely necessary to have a perfectly reliable register of the Thermometric, Barometric, Hygrometric, Electric, and Ozonic conditions of the atmosphere, kept in each important geographical section of our country, through a series of at least ten consecutive years, in direct connection with a corresponding record of the prevalence of the various forms of disease in the same localities. And I suggest whether, if the rule just mentioned in regard to the publication of papers in the Transactions, should so far diminish the size of the annual volume as to leave a surplus in the Treasury, it would not be more profitably spent in furnishing the necessary instruments, and establishing the necessary records, to determine with accuracy, in a few years, the actual relations of appreciable atmospheric conditions to the prevalence and character of diseases, than in the publication of such papers as serve little other purpose than to increase the size of the volume of Transactions. Indeed, if capable and zealous members of the profession, furnished with the necessary instruments, could be employed in each section of the country, and the results of their observations carefully arranged, tabulated, and reported to this Association annually, where, in the section on Meteorology and Epidemics, these results could be closely scanned, and have added to them the more desultory observations of the profession generally, it could not fail to throw a flood of light upon the etiology of a large class of most important diseases.

With becoming deference, I submit the foregoing suggestions for your consideration. They contemplate no changes in our constitution or plan of organization; they propose the introduction of no new or untried schemes; but they have for their sole object, the removal of obstructions and objections which the

experience of the past has demonstrated to exist, and the development of a more complete, systematic, and efficient method of transacting all the important business of the Association.

The great object is to perfect and perpetuate what has been, already, so well begun.

This great *National Medical Organization* has already existed long enough to have passed the dangers and uncertainties of its childhood, as well as the fickleness of its youth. It is time that its principles, its modes of action, and its important objects were clearly defined, methodically arranged, and matured to the steadiness and vigor of early manhood. Many of the most renowned members of our profession, who took part in its organization, and watched over its earlier years, have been gathered to the home of their fathers; and the nineteen years of active toil that have been added to the lives of many others, have carried them beyond the period of ardent active labor, to the more quiet era of ripening age. They still mingle with us, and at each returning anniversary meeting we hail their presence and crave their council, with the same joy and reverence that characterizes the meeting of the filial son and virtuous father.

But the important question whether this Association, which has already accomplished so much for the advancement of the Educational, Scientific, and Social interests of our noble profession, and maintained a vigorous and unsullied career during the nineteen eventful years that are past, shall be maintained, its modes of action perfected, and its beneficial influences constantly extended, depends entirely upon the generation who are now in the active, vigorous period of early manhood. If those of this class whom I now see before me, have imbibed the spirit of the founders of this Association, and will come forward with alacrity to the work of sustaining and perfecting what their fathers in the profession have begun, its existence will not only be perpetuated from generation to generation, but its beneficent influences will widen and deepen with every returning anniversary. Candor compels me to admonish you, however, that such

a result can never be accomplished by any amount, either of good *wishes* or *fault-finding;* but by prompt, persevering, disinterested action. Let all those who desire to see the standard of medical education steadily elevated from year to year, continue to concentrate, and give expression to, public sentiment through the morning sessions of each anniversary meeting. Let all those who have been complaining for years past, that sufficient attention has not been given by the Association to scientific matters, appear promptly in the several section rooms this afternoon, and aid in organizing and putting into efficient operation each of those subdivisons of our organization. The very complaints and criticisms in which you have heretofore indulged, have demonstrated your appreciation of the work to be accomplished. Hence I feel the more freedom in cordially inviting you to an active participation in the good work.

If the generation, into whose hands are now passing the labors, the honors, and the responsibilities of our time-honored and most beneficent profession, will give faithful heed to these things, the American Medical Association will not only outlive whatever changes and convulsions may be in store for our loved country in the future, but its members will annually come up from the North, the South, the East, and the West, to sit in social harmony, and plan additional means for alleviating human suffering, so long as civilization itself shall continue to bless the tribes of earth. Finally, let us all remember, not only while transacting the business of this Annual Session, but also in all the work that is before us in the future, that the great object of a virtuous and happy life, is neither worldly honors nor worldly treasures, but an inward consciousness of doing GOOD from day to day.

The President read a communication from Mayor Lincoln, inviting the members of the Association to an excursion down the harbor of Boston, to-morrow. It was unanimously voted to accept the invitation.

Papers and reports from special committees appointed or continued at the last session, being next in order, were called for, and the following were presented:—

On Insanity—Report by Dr. H. R. Storer, of Boston. Referred to the Section on Practical Medicine and Obstetrics.

On the Relations of Electricity to the Causes of Disease—Paper from Dr. Littell, of Pennsylvania. Referred to the Section on Practical Medicine and Obstetrics.

On Climatology and Epidemic Diseases of California—Reports by Drs. Logan, of California, and B. H. Catlin, of Connecticut. Referred to the Section on Meteorology and Epidemics.

On Alcohol and its relations to Man—Report by Dr. G. E. Morgan, of New York. Referred to the Section on Practical Medicine and Obstetrics.

On Autopsies and their Relations to Medical Jurisprudence—Report by Dr. T. C. Finnell, of New York. Referred to the Section on Medical Jurisprudence.

On the Introduction of Disease by Commerce, and the Means of its Prevention—Report by Dr. A. N. Bell, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Referred to the Section embracing Hygiene.

On Exsections and their Relation to Conservative Surgery—Papers by Dr. Tewksbury, of Iowa, and Dr. Lyon. Referred to the Section on Surgery.

On Specialists and Specialties—The Committee were requested to report on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

On the Rank of Medical Corps in the Army—Report by Dr. Tripler, U.S.A. Referred to the general session of Wednesday.

On the Rank of Medical Corps in the Navy—Report by Drs. Anderson, of New York, and others. Referred to the general session of Wednesday.

On Small-Pox—Papers by Drs. Ramsey, of New York, and Nebinger, of Philadelphia. Referred to the Section on Hygiene.

Volunteer communications were now called for, and the following papers were presented:—

On Ophthalmology—By Dr. Williams, of Cincinnati. Referred to the Section on Surgery.

Extraction of Foreign Bodies from the Ear and Nose—By Dr. Turnbull, of Philadelphia. Referred to the Section on Surgery.

On Staphyloraphy—By Dr. J. Mason Warren, of Boston. To be read at 3 o'clock P.M., on the 7th, at the Medical College.

On Surgery—By Dr. Henry J. Bigelow, of Boston. To be read at the Medical College at 4 o'clock P.M., of the 7th.

On the Functions of the Nerves of Sensation and Motion—By Dr. Haskell, of Rockport. Referred to the Section on Anatomy and Physiology.

On Dislocations of the Clavicle—By Dr. Holton. Referred to the Section on Surgery.

The Report on Specialties and Specialists, by Dr. Homberger, of New York, was assigned for consideration in general session at 9 o'clock on the 8th.

Eight o'clock was fixed as the hour for beginning the morning sessions of the Convention.

Dr. W. Marsden, President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, was introduced, and made a brief address.

It was voted that a committee to nominate officers, consisting of one from each State, be appointed by the various delegations.

The chair announced that the Sections of the Association would meet in their assigned rooms at 3 o'clock P.M.

At fifteen minutes before 2 o'clock the convention adjourned.

In the afternoon the several sections organized by the choice of chairmen and secretaries, and proceeded to the consideration of the reports and papers referred to them.

Soiree and Promenade Concert at the Music Hall.—In the evening, the members of the convention attended a soiree at the Music Hall, tendered them by their professional brethren of Boston, and a few hours were most agreeably spent in social intercourse. The music on this occasion was furnished by Gilmore's full band, and by Mr. J. B. Lang, who exhibited the great power and beauty of the organ, in his usual unsurpassed style. Many ladies graced the occasion with their presence. At 10 o'clock an elegant collation was served.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND DAY.

The second day's session of the Association was opened at 8:20 A.M., by the President, Dr. N. S. Davis, of Chicago. The names of the gentlemen chosen to nominate officers were reported as follows:—

Maine, Thomas A. Foster; *New Hampshire*, George D. Twitchell, of Keene; *Vermont*, H. D. Holton; *Massachusetts*, A. A. Gould; *Rhode Island*, S. Clapp; *Connecticut*, Elisha B. Nye; *New York*, D. W. C. Enos; *New Jersey*, Ezra M. Hunt; *Pennsylvania*, Dr. Mayburry; *Delaware*, James Couper; *Maryland*, Dr. Kenneman; *Ohio*, S. A. Almy; *District of Columbia*, J. M. Toner; *Indiana*, J. F. Hibberd; *Illinois*, John Bartlett; *Missouri*, J. S. B. Alleyn; *Iowa*, W. F. Peck; *United States Army*, J. J. Woodward; *United States Navy*, T. L. Smith; *Michigan*, H. A. Hitchcock.

Permission was given the committee to retire for consultation at 9 o'clock. The roll of the additional delegates registered since yesterday's session of the Association was read by the Secretary. The number present was then announced to be 468.

Dr. Cox, of Maryland, with a few preliminary remarks, offered the following preamble and resolution, which, he said, demanded the prompt action of the Association:—

Whereas, Montrose A. Pallen, whose name appears in the register, as a permanent member of this Association, has been proved to have been in complicity with an attempt to poison the Croton dam, by which the City of New York is supplied with drinking water—thus imperilling the lives of thousands of his fellow-citizens, therefore

Resolved, That the said Montrose A. Pallen has disgraced his manhood, and the humane profession of which he is an unworthy member; that he is hereby dishonorably discharged from this Association; that the Secretary be required to strike his name from the roll of members, and that he shall never hereafter be eligible to membership in the American Medical Association.

Dr. Cox supported the resolution with a few forcible remarks, which were frequently interrupted by applause. The resolution was fully discussed, and several amendments proposed. A motion by Dr. Toner, of Washington, to postpone all action upon the resolution for one year, called forth a spirited debate, in which Drs. Loomis, of Washington, Dewitt, of New York, Martin, of Worcester, Mayburry, of Pennsylvania, Curry of Westchester, Cox, of Maryland, and others, took part. Dr. Mayburry moved an amendment to the motion to postpone, so that the resolution might be referred to a special committee for consideration, to report on Thursday. The question then recurring on the original resolution, further discussion was had and several amendments were again proposed. The resolution, with several amendments, as finally adopted with a few dissenting voices, reads:—

Whereas, Montrose A. Pallen, whose name appears upon the register as a permanent member of this Association, has been declared, under oath, before the military commission, sitting at Washington at this date, to have been in complicity with an attempt to poison the Croton Reservoir, by which the City of New York is supplied with drinking water—thus imperilling the lives of thousands of his fellow-citizens, therefore

Resolved, That the said Montrose A. Pallen has disgraced his manhood, and the humane profession of which he is an unworthy member—that he is hereby indignantly expelled from this body—that the Secretary be required to strike his name from the roll of members.

It was voted that the final meeting of the Association shall begin on Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

A series of resolutions, offered by Dr. Garrish, of New York, of respect to the memory of the late Dr. Valentine Mott, were adopted by the Society.

On motion of Dr. Catlin, of Connecticut, a committe was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions on the death of Dr. Jonathan Knight, Dr. Benj. Silliman, and Dr. Chas. Hooker.

Reports and papers from special and other committees were next in order, and the following were presented:—

On the Rank of Medical Corps in the Army—Report by Dr. Tripler, U.S.A. Accepted and adopted. On motion of Dr. Cox, of Maryland, a resolution was adopted that the committee be continued, and that each member of this Association use his personal efforts with members of Congress to secure a more elevated grade for the entire medical corps in the Army.

On motion, it was voted that the report of the committee and the subject discussed therein be presented to the next Congress by the President of this Association.

On the Rank of Medical Corps in the Navy—Report by Dr. James Anderson, of New York, read by the Secretary. Accepted and adopted.

On motion, it was resolved that the committee be continued, and that the same course be taken with this report by the President as was voted to be taken with the report from the medical corps in the Army.

The report of the Committee on Publication was submitted by Dr. F. G. Smith. Appended to the report was a resolution authorizing the committee to assess each member such additional sum as will enable them to defray the expense of publishing the forthcoming report, provided the amount in the hands of the treasurer shall prove to be insufficient for the purpose. A protracted discussion followed upon the acceptance and adoption of the report, with the resolution as submitted. A motion to amend, limiting the assessment to one dollar, was lost; also a resolution offered as a substitute for the original resolution. Subsequently, the resolution as reported was adopted, with an amendment changing the word "assess" to "invite" to contribute.

The report of the Committee on Prize Essays was submitted by Dr. D. H. Storer, of Boston. It was announced that a prize had been awarded to the author of the dissertation on the "Surgical Treatment of Morbid Growths in the Larynx, bearing the motto "*Quod vidi scripsi.*" On opening the envelope bearing the corresponding inscription, the author was announced to be Dr. Louis Elsberg, of New York.

The premium offered at the last annual meeting for "the best short and comprehensive tract calculated for circulation among

females," on Criminal Abortions, was awarded to Dr. H. R. Storer, of Boston.

The Report on Medical Education was submitted by Dr. Antisell. Referred to the Committee on Publication.

The Report of the Treasurer was submitted, showing the amount in the treasury to be $301.95.

A paper on "Compulsory Vaccination" was referred to the Committee on Medical Jurisprudence.

The Report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution was submitted by the President of the Association, Dr. Parsons occupying the chair temporarily. The report was accepted and adopted, and the thanks of the Association were voted to the Committee for the satisfactory manner in which they had discharged their duty.

The Report of the Committee on Necrology was submitted without reading, and referred to the Committee on Publication.

During the session, the Secretary read the following names of gentlemen offered as candidates for election for permanent membership, reported by the Committee of Arrangements:—

Dr. O. H. Bradley, East Jaffery, N. H., nominated by Dr. L. E. Simonds, Saxton's River, Vt.

Dr. F. Winsor, Winchester, Mass., and Dr. Ed. D. G. Smith, U.S.N., nominated by Dr. L. A. Smith.

Dr. R. H. King, Wolfsboro', Carroll Co., N.H., nominated by Dr. David T. Parker, Farmington, N.H.

Dr. Alba Kemp, New Salem, Mass., nominated by Dr Ed. Barton, Orange, Mass.

Dr. C. D. Bemis, nominated by Dr. D. H. Storer.

Dr. Dryden Smith, Biddeford, Me., and Dr. John L. Allen, Saco, Me., nominated by Dr. M. P. Monroe, President of Maine Medical Association.

Dr. John Yale, Ware, Mass., Dr. David W. Miner, Ware, Mass., and Dr. J. W. Winslow, East Hampton, Mass., nominated by Dr Martin, of Worcester.

Dr. Benj. J. Mann, Roxbury, Mass., nominated by Dr. J. L. Miller, Pittsfield.

Dr. J. H. Waterman, Westfield, Mass., nominated by Dr. Orcutt, Hardwick, Mass.

Dr. J. H. Longeuecker, nominated by Dr. Antisell, Surgeon Vols.

Dr. J. S. Lombard, Boston, Dr. J. Q. O. McCollister, S. Groton, Mass., and Dr. George Jewett, Fitchburg, Mass., nominated by Drs. Hitchcock and Dale.

Dr. E. W. Sargent, W. Tennessee, Dr. Edwin Segur, Springfield, Mass., Dr. Jefferson Church, Springfield, Mass., and Dr. Alexander S. McLean, Springfield, Mass., nominated by Dr. Worthington Hooker.

Dr. Samuel S. Webber, Boston, and Dr. J. B. Gould, Templeton, Mass., nominated by Dr. J. N. Borland.

Dr. Silas B. Presby, Taunton, Mass., nominated by Dr. J. R. Bronson.

The gentlemen were unanimously elected by the Association.

The Nominating Committee reported a resolution that the several sections shall select the subjects germain to their organizations, and also appoint the committees thereon.

The Committee of Arrangements announced that Judge Warren, President of the Providence Railroad, had offered for the use of the Association a special train to Readville, for the purpose of visiting the military hospital there, at any hour that they might desire to use it. Also, that the Superintendent of the Boston public schools had caused volumes of the recent report to be sent to the State House to be distributed to such gentlemen as might wish them.

Dr. Toner, of Washington, offered an amendment to the Constitution, that delegates, on registering their names, shall pay the sum of $5, and permanent members, $3. The amendment, according to the Constitution, lies over until next year.

The Committee on Nominations, through their chairman, reported that they had decided upon Cincinnati, Ohio, as the next place of meeting of the Association. Dr. Cox, of Maryland, offered an amendment, substituting Baltimore, Md., for Cincinnati, O. A spirited debate followed, and at length the motion to amend was carried, and Baltimore decided upon as the next place of meeting.

A committee was appointed to draw up a series of resolutions on the death of Dr. S. D. Willard, late Secretary of the New York State Medical Society, and also to prepare a short biographical sketch of his life, both to be submitted to the Committee on Necrology.

A communication was received from Dr. Gross, Surgeon in charge of the military hospital at Readville, inviting the Association to visit Readville by special train on Thursday forenoon at 9 o'clock.

The convention adjourned at 2 o'clock. At the time of adjournment, the number of names registered on the books was 576, and delegates were still coming in. The sessions of the several sections were held in the afternoon.

Social Entertainments in the Evening.—Dr. J. Bigelow, Dr. D. H. Storer, Dr. Warren, Dr. Shattuck, Drs. Dix and H. R.

Storer, Dr. H. J. Bigelow, Dr. Upham, and Dr. Williams entertained the gentlemen of the Association, with their ladies, in an elegant and generous manner. Music, vocal and instrumental, charmed the ears of the guests, and every effort was made to make the evening agreeable and pleasant.

The residences of the gentlemen named above were visited during the latter part of the evening by Gilmore's Band, and serenaded in honor of their guests.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD DAY.

The Convention was called to order at 8¼, A.M., by the President.

On motion of Dr. Mayburry, of Pennsylvania, it was

Resolved, That the Permanent-Secretary be instructed to prefix to the List of Officers and Permanent Members, a list of the Ex-Presidents and Ex-Vice-Presidents of the Association.

Dr. Jarvis, of Dorchester, inquired concerning the functions of the Committee on Publication. A discussion on this question followed, in which the President, Drs. Jarvis, Sayre, of New York, Tripler, and Hibberd participated. By a vote of 45 to 37, a resolution was adopted giving the committee discriminating power.

On motion of Dr. Jarvis, of Dorchester, it was voted to establish a section on psychology.

Dr. Garrish, of New York, moved that a section on ophthalmic medicine be established.

Dr. Twitchell, of N. Hampshire, favored it. Dr. Williams, of Cincinnati, also favored the establishment of such a section, as there was need for thorough investigation of a science which had in the past ten years become, as it were, new, all the old landmarks having been swept away. The motion was opposed by Dr. Burns, of Pennsylvania, Dr. A. H. Stevens, of N. York, and others. It was finally rejected.

On motion of Dr. Hibberd, of Indiana, the section on anatomy and physiology was abolished, the subject of anatomy being assigned to the surgical section, and that of physiology to the section on hygiene.

A resolution was offered by Dr. Couper, of Delaware, and

read by Dr. Tripler, of the United States Army, that this Society send a delegate annually to the convention of medical superintendents of insane establishments, and that efforts be made to cause a more intimate relation between the two organizations; the delegate to be selected by the President. Amendments to the Constitution to be acted upon at the next annual meeting were offered in relation to permanent members, delegates from local societies, and members by invitation.

The Committee on Nomination reported that the time of the next meeting shall be in June, and submitted the following list of officers:—

President, Dr. D. H. Storer, of Massachusetts, *Vice-Presidents*, Drs. James F. Hibberd, of Indiana; S. O. Almy, of Ohio; T. C. Dunn, of Rhode Island; W. P. Johnson, of the District of Columbia; *Assistant-Secretary*, Dr. J. E. Morgan, of Maryland.

Committee on Arrangements, Drs. C. C. Cox, W. C. Van Bibler, Franklin Donelson, L. H. Steiner, George G. Miltenberger, William Whitridge, J. E. Morgan, all of Baltimore.

Committee on Publication, Drs. F. G. Smith, of Pennsylvania; H. F. Askew, of Delaware; William Mayburry, of Pennsylvania; W. B. Atkinson, of Pennsylvania; H. R. Storer, of Massachusetts; Caspar Wister, of Pennsylvania.

Committee on Prize Essays, Drs. Austin Flint, senior, J. R. Wood, Ellsworth Elliot, E. Krackowitzer, D. C. Enos, all of New York.

Committee on Medical Education, Drs. S. D. Gross, of Pennsylvania; G. P. Twitchell, of New Hampshire; C. A. Pope, of Missouri; O. W. Holmes, of Massachusetts; Grafton Tyler, of District Columbia.

Medical Literature (present committee continued over), Dr. Charles A. Lee, of New York; T. F. Rochester, of New York; C. C. Cox, of Maryland; Albert Smith, of New Hampshire; A. Nebinger, of Pennsylvania.

Committee on American Necrology, Drs. C. C. Cox, of Maryland; E. B. Stevens, of Ohio: W. F. Peck, of Iowa; H. Van Dusen, of Wisconsin; Noble Young, of the District of Columbia; Josiah Simpson, of the United States Army; J. C. Weston, of Maine; Henry Bronson, of Connecticut; Henry Noble, of Illinois; Charles Eversfield, of the United States Navy; William B. Fletcher, of Indiana; I. C. Hupp, of Western Virginia; J. Mauran, of Rhode Island; William K. Bowling, of Tennessee; J. P. Finch, of New Hampshire; James Couper, of Delaware; W. L. Linton, of Missouri; Charles L. Allen, of Vermont; H. G. Clark, of Massachusetts; J. H. Griscom, of New York; E. M. Moore, of New York; Charles A. Logan, of Kansas; William B. Little, of California; Stuart, of Minnesota; Henry Miller, of Kentucky; S. G. Armor, of Michigan; William Pierson, of New York; Fleming, of Pennsylvania; E. Wallace, of Penn.

The report was adopted as a whole, with the exception of the time of holding the next annual meeting. It was voted to meet on the first Tuesday in May, 1866, instead of June.

Dr. Allen, of New York, with a few explanatory remarks, moved that the vote adopting the resolution expelling Dr. Pallen be reconsidered. A sharp discussion ensued, and the vote

being taken, the result was doubted. The yeas and nays were then called for by Dr. Sayre, of New York, so that the names of the gentlemen might appear on the record. The question being put, "Shall the yeas and nays be taken," was lost. A standing vote was taken, and the motion to reconsider was also lost.

Dr. Hooker, of Connecticut, from a special committee, reported the following resolutions on the death of Dr. Knight, Dr. Charles Hooker, and Dr. Benjamin Silliman, all of Connecticut. The report was accepted, and the resolutions adopted:

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Jonathan Knight, twice a President of this Association, the duties of which office he discharged with extraordinary ability, the Medical Profession has lost one of its brightest ornaments; an eminent surgeon, who was conservative in the true sense of that term; a teacher, who by his transparent clearness and terse eloquence, unsurpassed among medical men in this country, exerted through fifty years a wide influence upon the character of the American medical mind; a Christian gentleman, whose genial qualities won for him, to an extent seldom witnessed, the affections not only of intimate friends, but of all those who knew him.

Resolved, That in lamenting the sudden departure from this life of Dr. Chas. Hooker, at the height of his usefulness, we cherish the memory of one whose independent mind and restless activity of Christian faithfulness obtained for him great eminence, both as a physician and teacher of medicine; and we call to mind with special pleasure, his earnest devotion from the outset to the interests of this Association.

Resolved, That we revere the memory of Professor Benjamin Silliman, who as a leader in the diffusion of science in this country, and in other countries also, was one of the great benefactors of the race, and who by his urbanity, kindness of heart, and cheerful piety, enhanced to an uncommon degree his influence upon the community as a man of science.

Dr. Furman, of New York, presented resolutions adopted by the State Medical Society of New York, and referred to the National Medical Society, against newspaper advertising, except merely the card of the physician.

Dr. Julius Homberger, of New York, Chairman of the Committee on Specialties and Specialists, presented an elaborate individual report, favoring advertising by specialists. The report was laid upon the table for the present, and a second report was submitted by Dr. H. R. Storer, of Boston, also a member of the committee, defending specialists.

Dr. D. Humphreys Storer spoke concerning a passage in the report relating to himself, denying that he was ever a specialist. Dr. H. R. Storer, in reply, defended his own ground. This report was also laid upon the table, temporarily.

Dr. W. Hooker, of Connecticut, another member of the committee, reported that he had not had sufficient time to investigate the report of Dr. Homberger, and therefore could not give an opinion concerning it. With the report of Dr. H. R. Storer he could not entirely agree, especially in that part of the report which referred to specialists as the leaders of the profession.

The reports were then taken from the table for consideration.

Dr. Martin made a motion that the reports be referred back to the committee for consideration another year, and supported his motion at some length.

Dr. Bissell, of New York, moved to amend the previous motion, and moved that the reports be referred to the Committee on Medical Ethics.

Dr. Toner, of Washington, criticised the reports in a severe manner.

Dr. Homberger, of New York, defended his position, and stated as the reason why he did not send his report to the other members of the committee at an earlier date, that he knew they would not agree with him and would not sign it. His remarks were not received very favorably by the members.

Dr. Mayburry, of Pennsylvania, favored strongly the referring of the reports to the Committee on Medical Ethics.

The question was then taken on referring the reports to the Committee on Ethics, and decided in the affirmative. On motion of Dr. Twitchell, of New Hampshire, the Committee on Medical Ethics was instructed to report some definite action on this subject.

The convention adjourned at half-past 12 o'clock.

The Excursion down the Harbor.—The gentlemen of the Association, immediately after the adjournment of the business meeting at the State House, proceeded in a body to Commercial Wharf, where they embarked in the steamers Rose Standish and Russia, for the purpose of taking an excursion down the harbor, by invitation of the City Council. On board of the Rose Standish, besides the members of the Medical Society, were His Honor the Mayor, and several members of the City Council, part of the Committee of Arrangements, Chief of

Police Kurtz, a number of invited guests, and Gilmore's full military band in their new uniform. On the Russia, the Brigade Band was stationed. The party on both steamers numbered nearly, if not quite, 1000 people.

The two steamers proceeded down the channel side-by-side. As the party passed the revenue cutter Pawtuxet, they were received with a salute, and the hoisting of the flag. The steamers acknowledged the compliment by dipping their colors and sounding their whistles. The boys on the Massachusetts, school ship, filling the deck and rigging, cheered the excursion lustily and run up the colors. This compliment was also acknowledged by the Rose Standish and the Russia, and the cheers returned by the passengers.

The first landing of the party was at Deer Island, where they were received by Hon. Moses Kimball, Chairman of the Committee on Public Institutions, and were invited by that gentleman to walk through the House of Industry, and examine it as much as they desired. After about a half-hour's time had been consumed in visiting the island, the party reëmbarked, and proceeded further down the harbor.

By the kind permission of Major H. A. Allen, of the Second United States Artillery, commanding the post at Fort Warren, the excursionists were allowed to land, but were requested by the Major to have no conversation with the prisoners. The United States officers at Fort Warren were very attentive to the guests, and extended to them, during their short stay, every attention that was in their power. Major Joel Severns, of the U.S. Volunteers, is post-surgeon.

About four o'clock, the party reached Long Island, and disembarked. In the "Cottage," and in the tents on either side, tables were spread with all the delicacies of the season, and to this attractive feature the attention of the gentlemen was directed immediately upon landing.

After the very pleasant duty of relieving the tables of their burden had been performed, His Honor the Mayor mounted a chair, and calling the gentlemen to order, addressed the company in a speech full of the most cordial hospitality and gener-

ous appreciation of the standing and value of the medical profession. We regret that want of space prevents our publishing his remarks in full.

Mayor Lincoln was frequently interrupted with most emphatic applause and enthusiastic cheering. After partial silence had been restored, the Mayor called upon Dr. Davis, President of the Association, who was loudly cheered upon taking the stand—or chair.

He said that he was exceedingly happy to meet the gentleman under circumstances so pleasing to each individual around him. The assembly, he said, almost overwhelmed him with recollections of the past. The historic old city of Boston, which has sometimes been called the cradle of liberty, everything around us, not only the old shaft on Bunker Hill; but the old church, the old graveyard, even the by-ways and crooked ways [laughter] moved him with pleasing recollections of the past. He was happy as he looked around him, as he stood with his feet, as it were, in the eastern extreme of our glorious Union, to see many who would recollect with him a similar excursion to this, west of the Mississippi, and the kind attentions which the Association received there. At this time it should not be forgotten that away in the distant South, even in South Carolina, this Association has assembled and has received the same kind attentions. He would not dare to allude to this, even as a reminiscence, did he not know that the valor of our soldiers brought the South to our fold once again. [Applause.] He said that when his mind travelled over scenes and the pleasing reminiscences of the past years of the life of this Association, which has met in every section of our country, his heart was too full, and his tongue could not express his feelings. We may meet, continued the speaker, for good, to rack our brains in devising better medicines to alleviate the sufferings of mankind, but after all it is the social element in our conventions that makes them so attractive to us. In conclusion, Dr. Davis cordially thanked the City Council, in the name of the National Medical Society, for the generous attention extended to them.

Dr. Woodward, of the Surgeon-General's office, at Washington, was then introduced. He spoke concerning the medical profession in the army, of their perilous position, and their devotion to their duties, saying that had it not been for the aid which our armies have received from the profession they would have been able to do but little in this war.

Dr. Storer, the newly elected President of the Association, was then called for. He was introduced to the gentlemen by His Honor the Mayor in rather a peculiar manner, which caused much laughter. Dr. Storer, in speaking of his election as President of the Association, said that he had hoped that some other gentleman would have been chosen to represent the National Medical Association than himself. He said that he had not the presumption to suppose that he possessed qualifica-

tions that were not possessed by the great majority of the members of the Association, but he received the honor as a compliment to Massachusetts. Dr. Storer spoke of the social influence of these conventions. Dr. Worthington Hooker, of Connecticut, made a short speech, speaking in a happy manner of his State, Connecticut, and of the generous manner in which the Association had been treated by the City of Boston. Rev. Dr. Lothrop was the next speaker. In speaking of the medical profession, he said that in his opinion it stands at the top of the professions, and demands the highest gratitude from the infinite and incalculable service which it renders to mankind. Dr. Sayre, of New York, in a short speech, acknowledged the hospitality with which the convention has been received in Boston. Short speeches were also made by Dr. Doherty, of Connecticut, Dr. J. P. Ordway, of Boston, Dr. Curry, of Westchester, N.Y., and others.

About half-past eight o'clock, the party again embarked on the return "voyage." As the steamers left the wharf, rockets and other fireworks were discharged from their decks, and the bands performed favorite airs. The sail home by moonlight was exceedingly pleasant, and the time was occupied in listening to the fine music of the bands, and to singing, conversing, &c. As the steamers passed the pilot boat No. 7, that vessel burned brilliant blue-lights, which were noticed with cheering. On landing at Commercial Wharf, the passengers of the Rose Standish formed in procession and marched to the Tremont House to the music of Gilmore's band, where they separated.

The Committee of Arrangements of the City Council deserve much credit for the admirable manner in which the arrangements for the excursion were carried out. Everything that could be thought of for the comfort and enjoyment of the company was provided.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH DAY.

The Association was called to order at 9 o'clock, by the President. Reports from sections were received and appropriately referred, and it was voted that such bills as might be presented therein should be paid by the Treasurer of the Association.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, Drs. Leidy, F. G. Smith, and H. Hartshorn were appointed a committee on the paper of Dr. Corse, on "the microscope."

Dr. J. P. Ordway of Boston, presented a protest against the action of the Association in adopting the resolutions expelling Dr. Montrose A. Pallen. After the words of the resolution the document reads as follows:—

Whereas, the association has refused by vote to reconsider its action in this behalf, now, therefore,

We, the undersigned, in attendance, while we execrate the crime with which Dr. Pallen stands charged, and would, if his guilt were established, most promptly and heartily vote for his expulsion, do most respectfully protest against the action of this association, as above recited, on the general principle that all sense of right and justice, as well as the established rules of this association, demand that no man shall be condemned and punished until his guilt is established. And we desire that this protest shall be placed upon the record in the minutes of the proceedings of this annual meeting.

Signed by Drs. James F. Hibberd, Henry I. Bowditch, George B. Twitchell, and about thirty other gentleman.

The ground taken in the protest was ably defended by Dr. Ordway, and after some discussion, on motion of Dr. Hunt, of New Jersey, a special committee of three, consisting of Drs. Hunt, Bibben, of New York, and Baxter, U.S.A., were appointed to prepare an answer to the paper.

A letter from Dr. W. H. Mussey, of Cincinnati, was read by the President, which severely censured the "course of Surgeon-General Barnes, in consulting with a homœopath in the case of Secretary Seward and son, and allowing a quack to prescribe medically whilst he was attending surgically," characterizing it as an "offence of no mean proportions; the high position of the parties making the demoralizing effect the greater." The facts alleged in the letter were declared to be without foundation by Dr. Woodward, of Washington.

At this point, His Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and accompanied by Assistant-Surgeon-General Hooker, entered the hall, and was received by the Association, the members rising in their seats. His Excellency was introduced by the President, and addressed the Association as follows:—

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Convention:—I did not presume to enter the hall with the intention of interrupting the proceedings of the body

which has met beneath the arches of the Hall of the House of Representatives, but for the purpose, in the first place, of testifying by my presence and my voice, and to respectfully acknowledge the honor conferred upon me by the Convention, in the invitation to attend and to address this meeting on the morning of its first convening. Having been prevented by illness from doing so, I felt it due to myself and the body assembled, to avail myself of the earliest practical moment of passing a short time in the presence of this large assembly of the most learned and wisest of the medical profession; but more, I must say, I felt it to be due to the Commonwealth, one of whose official representatives I am, to testify in praise, and with emphasis also, to the interest which it attaches to such meetings of gentlemen of the learned profession of medicine. The interest it attaches to it, not only from its relation to the cause of science, but in relation to the cause of popular progress in many of the departments of human learning. The interest also which it attaches to the medical profession in its relation to the patriotism of the people, since that profession represents the body of men whose devotion, whose energy, whose skill, whose ability, and whose usefulness have not been surpassed, during these last four years of Southern war, by any similar number of citizens of the United States. [Applause.] And I trust, Mr. President, that this meeting in the City of Boston will be but the introduction of your Association to the city, and that the capital of the Commonwealth may witness many returns of a similar reunion. And I hope that wherever your honorable body may meet hereafter, it will receive the same cordial welcome of an intelligent people capable of appreciating learning, capable of understanding adequately and valuing the contributions of such men, alike to the health and morals, and to the sentiments of the people. For I believe, sir, that reasonable, progressive, and philosophic views, in regard to the treatment of disease, or deranged health in all the forms of altered life, are both useful in respect to that which is perishable in our mortal bodies, and in respect to that which is eternal in the immortal mind. [Cheers.] I am happy to learn, Mr. President, that the meeting of the Convention has been attended on the present occasion with so many circumstances of interest and value, and cordially thanking you for this opportunity of addressing the Convention, and wishing the body themselves future happiness and prosperity, for many years to come, I have the honor to take my leave. [Cheers.]

At the conclusion of his address His Excellency retired, and the Association resumed its business.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the protest in the case of Dr. Pallen, reported as follows, through its chairman, Dr. Hunt:—

We, the undersigned, beg leave to recommend the following reply to the protest of certain members of the American Medical Association against the action of the said Association in the case of one Montrose A. Pallen.

We remark, first, as to the right of protest in an association of this kind, that it is one which needs scarcely ever to be exercised, and the use of which is in general a bad precedent. When a motion is fairly before a body, is carefully considered, and then deliberately acted upon, that submission to law and to a majority which is important to be cultivated as a principle, and which is particularly needed to be exemplified by prominent men as the grand lesson taught by the times, should lead the minority to be content to express their dissent in the usual method. With due deference to those who signed the protest, we cannot but express our regret that, while in the course of years many points have been discussed before this body, involving direct medical interests, and yet have been left to the decisions of the majority, so far as we know, the first case calling forth a protest is in the behalf of a man, in reference to whom we had the

distinct statement of Dr. C. C. Cox, of Maryland, that he, early in the war, left St. Louis, in the interests of the rebellion, and that the testimony in the case referred to was explicit in reference to his complicity with the attempted crime. We at least exercise no right not already granted to these protestants, in expressing our dissent from the propriety of their action in not submitting to the decision of this body after the question was once discussed, and then twice after reconsidered and the former action reaffirmed, and that too in the absence of the gentlemen who were the movers of the resolution. Secondly, we beg leave to notice the fact that the protestants have erred as to matters of fact. The Association has in no way formally declared that no sufficient proof had been adduced of the guilt of Montrose A. Pallen. The fact that the word proved was amended by the insertion of the words "has been declared under oath," is merely the difference between the legal issuing of a case and that kind of evidence which is entirely satisfactory and conclusive to even a guarded public sentiment. It was on this evidence and on the statements and opinions of members, that the Association saw fit to base their action. They felt that the course of Pallen, previous to this averred act, and the testimony in the case, were sufficient grounds for their action. There are times when a man may be known by the company he keeps, and in such a barbarous wickedness as the one involved, the whole testimony and evil association justify us in this action.

If the case was one that could be tried by us, so much the better; but the grounds of suspicion are so enormous, as in our view to justify our course of action. We are not injuring him, for the cloud already upon him is one to which ours will not add a feather. We are but protecting ourselves. When the evidence of mistake is shown, we will gladly acknowledge our error and retrace our course. But is it not best to separate from our Association one who has been in intimate association with the vilest enemies of humanity? We have high ideas of personal rights, but one who has been in leagued friendship with those making the boldest attack on the dearest personal rights of universal humanity cannot complain, until his character is vindicated, that he is cut off from association with those who by profession, as well as by their manhood, are philanthropists and patriots. While we agree to the general idea that no man shall be condemned and punished until his guilt is established, we look upon guilt as having degrees, and as sometimes being established, independent of the decision of the courts; and in cutting him off from the Association, we do not recognize ourselves as "condemning and punishing him" in the legal and opprobrious sense in which those terms are used when one is consigned to the prison or the gallows; but as protecting ourselves from the odium of association with one who, we have evidence enough to satisfy us, has chosen as associates not only rebels, but assassins, and who, while he is unable to clear his skirts, is not particularly jeopardized in life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness, by our act.

The President then announced that he had received the following telegraphic despatch from Montrose A. Pallen:—

MONTREAL, CANADA EAST, JUNE 9.

To the President of the National Medical Association:—I have been expelled from the association upon unrebutted testimony for participating in a crime which I execrate as much as any gentleman in the convention. I will produce affidavits to prove Sandford Conover's evidence to be infamous perjury. I beg a reconsideration of the vote, and that it be referred to a committee before whom I pledge myself to still preserve the fair fame belonging to every member of the association. MONTROSE A. PALLEN.

A motion was made to accept and adopt the report of the committee as the sense of the association. The motion was discussed at some length, and finally laid upon the table.

A special committee on insanity was appointed, consisting of Drs. Alfred Hitchcock, of Massachusetts; Isaac Ray, of Rhode Island; S. H. Tewksbury, of Maine; B. F. Barker, of New York; and J. S. Butler, of Connecticut.

The Secretary read the following resolution offered by Dr. Garrish, of New York:—

Resolved, That the American Medical Association, with heartfelt and national pride, extend to the Army and Navy Surgeons their thanks for the prompt manner in which they have met the calls and perils of the battle field, demanded by our country.

Resolved, That we tender to the families and friends of those who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of humanity, our earnest sympathies for the bereavement the have sustained. They have restored to us and the whole nation a peaceful and happy home for all future time.

The resolutions were adopted.

On motion, the duty of revising the list of permanent members for republication was referred to the committee on medical necrology.

Dr. Burns, of Pennsylvania, presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the American Medical Association, in closing their annual session in the city of Boston, June 9th, 1865, do most sincerely tender a vote of thanks to their medical brethern, the Governor of Massachusetts, city authorities and inhabitants of Boston, for their very kind and generous hospitalities to the assembled delegates from all parts of our country; and in biding them farewell we shall ever cherish the remembrance of their kindness, and express the hope that prosperity, with every domestic, social, intellectual, and religious blessing may be their abiding portion.

By Dr. Kennedy of New York, resolutions were offered as follows:—

Resolved, That the thanks of the American Medical Association be and are hereby tendered to His Honor Mayor Lincoln and the authorities of the city of Boston, for the kind reception and splendid entertainment given to the association during their stay in the city.

Resolved, That the thanks of the association are due, and are hereby presented, to the committee of arrangements of the association for the faithful and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged the arduous duties imposed upon them.

Resolved, That the thanks of the association be presented to our president, Dr. N. S. Davis, for the singularly able and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office.

The following was offered by Dr. Van Kleek, of New York:—

Resolved, That this is a National Association, and as, in its earlier days, we enjoyed with pleasure and profit the intercourse with our professional brothers of all parts of our country, and as the unhappy feud which for four years divided the nation, has now ceased and peace has again come, we trust forever, —so we hope soon again to meet our members and delegates from the South on this platform of fraternalization, and to this end we extend to them an earnest invitation and promise them a cordial welcome.

The following by Dr. Bowditch was offered by Dr. Hibberd:

Resolved, That this association has learned with deep regret that there are fears of famine and consequent disease and pestilence occurring in some parts of Georgia and South Carolina, passed over by Gen. Sherman's army in its victorious course.

Resolved, That this association would urge upon the Sanitary and Christian Commissions to send agents to learn the exact facts, and, if need be, to take prompt and efficient measures to prevent or mitigate such a distressing result.

The following was offered by Dr. Bronson:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be and they are hereby tendered to Major John Morrisey, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Massachusetts Legislature, and his assistants, for the very able and efficient manner in which they have performed the functions of their offices during the sessions of the association.

The resolutions were all unanimously adopted.

The venerable Dr. Child made a short address, speaking as follows:—

I feel extremely gratified that I am permitted on behalf of the State Medical Society to be present on this occasion, and I have also been extremely gratified in the proceedings of the association; and, permit me to say, very much so as respects the management of the presiding officer [cheers]; and I would unite in expressing the thanks of the association for the worthy manner in which he has performed his services, and I hope a reply will be heard from him on this parting occasion. [Applause.]

The President of the Association, Dr. Davis, then delivered his farewell address, which was as follows:—

GENTLEMEN:—I thought when I was down upon the island under that cottage roof, posted upon a chair, that the emotions within me were such as almost entirely to forbid utterance; but I confess, notwithstanding the warm congratulations and cordial feelings which surrounded us there, they have fallen below what you have put upon me to do at the close of this meeting, in the manifestations of your approval of the manner in which I have been permitted to discharge the duties of my office. Compelled last year by the amendment of the constitution to serve two years in these same labors, I find so warm a manifestation of your approval as surely will never be forgotten by me; this time has been an enjoyment that will leave its impress upon the deepest recesses of my heart while I am permitted to live, no matter what may be the vicissitudes that await me in the future, or changes which may take place in this our national organization. The feelings which have been impressed upon me here will remain unobliterated while time lasts, and I fondly

hope will not be wasted while eternity itself shall endure. But, gentlemen, I must, in turn, offer my most cordial thanks to every one of you, for if we have had excellent meetings, it is because you, every one of you, have kindly sustained me in the discharge of my duty, and, therefore, I say, I am as much indebted to you, and far more than you are to me; therefore, I give you my thanks. And I tender my thanks cordially to the City of Boston, and to all those in the vicinity, for the manner in which I, as an humble individual, have been treated. Before I close, let me make one more observation. I have been very strongly impressed for twelve months past with the feeling that this Association had arrived at a crisis of its existence; and I have felt at the opening of the session, this meeting here in the old cradle of liberty, almost in sight of the waves of the Atlantic, would determine whether this Association was to be perpetuated to the latest generations, gathering the profession from the four quarters of the continent, not merely from East or West, or North or South, but from the whole continent, and uniting it in a common brotherhood for defending the interests of humanity, as long as civilization itself shall endure—or whether we should culminate, and, like the transient meteor in the heavens, make our mark and fade away. And I felt strongly impressed at the time, because I saw many aged among us, and many young who looked to the aged, and because they did not come up to their expectations fully, were hanging back, and inquiring why? And it seemed we had arrived exactly at the period where the Association was about to be transferred from one generation to the next, and as I commenced very young, I felt that I stood as a connecting link, that my right hand was on the shoulder of the aged, and my left upon the shoulder of the younger members of the profession, and if I could hold them together and put the burden of the Association over from the shoulders of the one fairly upon the other, I felt that it would stand firm through the coming trial. My brethren of the profession, I feel that the crisis has passed. [Cheers.] The Association is established upon the firm shoulders of the next generation. I am sure they will pass it to the next and

along to others as long as civilization shall exist, therefore I cordially sympathize with you in all the enjoyments of this occasion; and I hope, while I am permitted to live and be able to go by steam-ship or rail-car, that I will find time to enjoy a green oasis every year, in meeting you as long as age shall let me linger with you. [Cheers and applause.]

At the close of the address of Dr. Davis, three hearty cheers were given for that gentleman.

At a quarter past one o'clock, the Convention adjourned to meet again on the first Tuesday in May, 1866, in the City of Baltimore.

The annual meeting of the Association of 1865 has been more largely attended than on any previous occasion, six hundred and sixteen members and delegates having registered their names on the books of the committee. It is generally regarded as having been a most interesting and successful convention.

A Visit to the Readville Hospital.—After the adjournment, a considerable number of the physicians availed themselves of an invitation which had been received to visit the U.S.A. General Hospital, at Readville, free passes having been tendered by the Providence Railroad Company. On the arrival of the party at Readville, they were welcomed by the surgeon in charge, who, with his assistants, afforded the visitors every facility for examining the institution. The officers of the Hospital are now as follows:—Dr. Gross, Surgeon of Volunteers, in charge, and Acting-Assistant-Surgeons Wilbur, Langmaid, Osborne, and Ropes.

Quackery in Turkey.—In consequence of the death of a soldier having occurred in Constantinople, after taking the prescription of a quack doctor, the medical director-general ordered a commission of inquiry into the quality of the medicine. The result has been a seizure of the whole of his drugs, he himself being arrested for illegal practice.

Small-Pox in Algiers.—The prevalence of small-pox in Algiers has induced the French medical practitioners to instruct the natives in the practice of vaccination. It is said that this operation has now become quite popular amongst them.

Selections.

THE PROOFS THAT LITHOTRITY IS AN EMINENTLY SUCCESSFUL OPERATION.

By HENRY THOMPSON, F.R.C.S., Surgeon Extraordinary to H.M. the King of the Belgians, Surgeon to University College Hospital.

I am induced to offer a few remarks on this subject, partly because a statement has recently appeared in *the Lancet*, made by my friend Mr. Holmes Coote, to the effect that "the general impression formed respecting the relative merit of the two operations"—namely lithotomy and lithotrity—is highly unfavorable to the latter, for "the dangers attending lithotrity are greater than are commonly supposed; and that the very favorable returns quoted by some surgeons proceed from their considering each 'sitting' as a completed case, whereas the result should be regarded only after the patient has been freed of his complaint."

One portion of this extract must be noticed first and briefly. If any surgeons are in the habit of representing each of the several sittings required to remove a stone as a completed case, there is but one term that can characterize such conduct, and it is a term that I dare to employ, only because I do not believe there are any to whom it is in the least degree applicable. Such conduct would simply be grossly fraudulent. Any person adopting it would state that he had operated on five, seven, or ten patients (or whatever number of sittings might have been necessary to free any given patient from his stone), when in truth he had operated only on one. I have had to examine many statements in relation to this subject, but I have never had reason to suspect such a practice. Several weeks have elapsed since the suggestion was made, and, observing that at present it has elicited no remark, I felt that it could not continue longer unnoticed.

But, secondly, in relation to the important question of the dangers or the success of lithotrity, I confess that it is necessary to differ very widely from the opinion which has been said to be general. I think I shall be able to show that lithotrity is a safe and efficient operation for other cases than those belonging to the very narrow category to which Mr. Coote would confine it—viz., "almost exclusively to cases of men in middle or advanced life, of gouty habit, and with a deep perineum, in whom,

after intervals of a few months, a small uric-acid calculus drops from the kidney into the bladder, the kidneys being in their general structure healthy." It is further enjoined that this calculus is to be crushed "while it is yet small." Further still—"the lithotrite should, under no circumstances, be used for the purpose of crushing an oxalate-of-lime calculus."

With the object of aiding the practical solution of this question, a group of consecutive cases of lithotrity will be presented with their results. I shall, in short, adduce my own personal experience of the operation during the year just closed; that is, a brief statement of every case in which I have performed and completed lithotrity between Jan. 1st and Dec. 31st, 1864. And, surely, it will be admitted that whether this *resume* affords an exceptionally good result or not (and I contend that it does not), the possibility of such a result suffices to prove the extreme value of the operation for a very considerable range of cases. The patients on whom I have so operated during 1864, are nineteen in number; and I think the result may be regarded, although but a small contribution, yet as numerically much more valuable for inferential purposes than so small a number as four cases, of which two were fatal, which furnished the theme for Mr. Coote's remarks. As will appear, not one of mine was so; in one case only the operation was followed by death in a few weeks, opinions respecting the cause of which may be various; the others made good recoveries.

I ought to premise that, having personally no choice as to the performance of the cutting or of the crushing operation, I have been ready to apply either, according to what, after careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case, appeared to be the best for it. Lastly, I have refused to operate in any way upon one case only—one in which the last chance of affording relief had wholly disappeared. Favorable cases, therefore, have not been selected for either proceeding. That there may be no error, I shall in each case name one individual who has seen it with me, so that a guarantee is afforded of the accuracy of my statement. Without any fear that it would be called in question, I still prefer this as the best rule to adopt, since it places the facts stated beyond the suspicion of error, and within the reach of present inquiry.

Case 1. A gentleman, aged seventy-four. Uric-acid stone; medium size.* Seven sittings. January and February, 1864;

* By the term "medium," I imply (as elsewhere stated) a stone which measures about an inch in diameter in the lithotrite. The terms "small" and "large," denote stones relatively much smaller and larger than this standard.

seen by Mr. Clover, who gave him chloroform at the patient's special request at first sitting, but was not repeated. Success perfect.

Case 2. A gentleman, aged sixty-nine. Two uric-acid stones of considerable size. Eighteen sittings. Spring, 1864. A patient of Mr. Gayland, of Devonshire-street, who was present on every occasion. Success perfect.

Case 3. A gentleman, aged forty-five. Uric-acid and urates, full medium size. Eight sittings. Spring, 1864. Dr. Koepl, of Brussels, who was then in town, was present at two sittings. Success perfect.

Case 4. A gentleman, aged forty-six. Oxalate of lime; small medium size. Five sittings. Spring, 1864. Dr. Pancoast, of Philadelphia, then in town, was present at one or two of the sittings. Success perfect.

Case 5. A gentleman, aged seventy-six. A smallish phosphatic stone. Five sittings. April and May, 1864. This case was seen by Dr. Jenner two or three times. Success perfect.

Case 6. A gentleman, aged forty-eight. A medium-sized uric-acid stone. Six sittings. Mr. Hilton was present at one sitting. Success perfect.

Case 7. A gentleman, aged seventy. Large mixed calculus. Eleven sittings. Summer, 1864. Seen two or three times by Mr. M. B. Hill. All symptoms of stone disappeared. Some trouble remains with pre-existing enlarged prostate; but he rides, drives, and is actively employed.

Case 8. A gentleman, aged sixty-eight. A rather small calculus, mixed. Five sittings. Summer, 1864. M. Harris, of Gower-street, was present at every sitting. Success perfect.

Case 9. A gentleman, aged forty-eight. A rather large uric-acid stone. Eleven sittings. Summer, 1864. Mr. Hilton was present two or three times. Success perfect.

Case 10. A gentleman, aged sixty-nine. Small uric-acid stone. Five sittings. Dr. Koepl was present at the first. The symptoms disappeared, and he returned home. A fortnight afterwards the patient called on me to complain of a little return of pain. I advised waiting a week or two before sounding. This was at the beginning of June. At the end of the month he had severe rigors and fever, no instruments having been used. He gradually sank in the middle of July. At the autopsy, a calculus, the size of a bean, and smaller ones, were found in the right kidney; in the left was a large abscess. In the bladder there were four calculi, like those in the kidney, which had probably recently descended. The operation was

incapable of removing the graver part of the malady—viz., that of the kidneys.

Case 11. A gentleman, aged sixty-nine. Large uric-acid stone. Ten sittings. Summer, 1864. Mr. M. B. Hill saw this patient frequently; my friend Mr. Norman, of Southsea, also, on one occasion. Success perfect.

Case 12. A gentleman, aged sixty-two. Autumn, 1864. Small uric-acid stone. Three sittings. Mr. Hammerton was present each time. Success perfect.

Case 13. A gentleman, aged sixty-two. Autumn, 1864. Large calculus, uric-acid, and urates. Thirteen sittings. Dr. Harley was present at one sitting. Success perfect.

Case 14. A gentleman, aged forty-nine. Small uric-acid stone. One sitting. Mr. Clippingdale saw this case with me, in Nov., 1864. A subsequent severe illness, from which he slowly recovered; but he writes me now, that he has "no return of the old complaint."

Case 15. A man, aged fifty-nine; University College Hospital. Rather small uric-acid stone. Eight sittings. Nov. and Dec., 1864. The calculus could never be found or seized in any other way than with the blades of the lithotrite directed downwards immediately behind the prostate, however high the pelvis was raised. Discharged free from all symptoms.

Case 16. A boy, aged six; University College Hospital. Small uric-acid stone, the size of a small bean, crushed at one sitting. Discharged cured Dec., 1864.

Case 17. A gentleman, aged seventy-five. A rather small phosphatic stone, broken up and removed at one sitting in Dec., 1864. Mr. Tatham, of Brighton, was present. The patient had long passed no urine, except by catheter. This condition of course remains, minus the symptoms of stone.

Case 18. A gentleman aged fifty-seven. A small oxalate of lime calculus, crushed at one sitting in Nov., 1864. Mr. M. B. Hill was present. Successful as far as the removal of the stone is concerned. The patient is still subject to the formation of small calculi, which he has passed in great number.

Case 19. A gentleman, aged fifty-eight. A uric-acid stone of rather more than medium size. Five sittings. Dec., 1864. Mr. P. Jackson, and Mr. C. Jackson, of Wimpole-street were present at each sitting. Success perfect.

This list comprises eighteen adults, all relieved of stones, of which but a few were small. One patient only died, and certainly not as a direct result of lithotrity, but of renal disease and renal calculus, after having recovered from the primary

effects of the operation. Of these eighteen adults, the youngest was forty-five years old, the eldest seventy-five; the majority were above sixty-two years; four were seventy and upwards; and the average age of the whole number is also, as nearly as possible, sixty-two years. No one, I presume, will imagine that for these cases the operation of lithotomy would have afforded results in any way comparable; nevertheless, many of the stones were of considerable size.

I venture to add that, in my opinion, the success of lithotrity depends upon the method adopted. During a considerable period of the history of that operation, its results were undoubtedly inferior to the results of lithotomy in average hands; and if the same method be still employed, no better results can be expected. I propose to add a few remarks on what appears to me to constitute the safe and successful practice of lithotrity in the succeeding number.—*London Lancet.*

Editorial.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BOSTON, June 6th, 1865.

PROF. E. ANDREWS:—*Dear Sir:*—Leaving home on the 18th ult., after a pleasant trip over the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, the Pennsylvania Central, and Northern Central Railroads, we arrived in Baltimore on Saturday morning, where we tarried until the Monday following.

The fields along our route were clothed in their richest green; the forests, in full foliage, were beautified with the white blossoms of the *Cornus Florida*, with here and there a wild rose, a geranium, or a modest violet.

To escape from the din of the city, the unceasing calls of the sick, and never-ending routine of professional life, and enjoy the fresh invigorating air of the country, while the eyes feasted on the hills and valleys, the waving grain, and unbroken forests, was a privilege such as none but the care-worn and toilsome inhabitant of a busy city knows how to appreciate.

After resting over the Sabbath in Baltimore, we proceeded,

on Monday morning, to Washington, where we expected to spend two or three days. But such was the throng, in anticipation of the great military reviews to take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, that we could not find a lodging in any kind of a hotel in the city. About noon, however, we obtained room in a private boarding-house, and hastened to the office of the Surgeon-General, for the purpose of gaining admission to the Army Medical Museum. We (myself and son) were very kindly received by Surgeon-General BARNES, who sent one of his assistants, immediately, to show us everything of interest in the Museum.

We found the collection neatly and conveniently arranged, though in a building too small for the number of specimens that are still rapidly increasing. I was particularly interested in a series of wet pathological specimens, showing the changes in the mucous membrane of the intestines, effected during the progress of camp diarrhœa, dysentery, and typhoid fever. The specimens exhibit traces of disease in almost every stage of progress, from simple redness or slight inflammatory action, to that of extensive ulceration and gangrene. The specimens of gunshot injuries are very numerous, and those of the larger joints intensely interesting. The results of exsections are presented in considerable numbers, and, so far as relates to the knee and other hinge joints, they certainly do not encourage this branch of conservative surgery. With the shoulder and hip it is different. In the collection, there are several skulls, showing only a very slight graze or contusion of a ball upon the exterior surface, while the inner table was fully and *comminutely* fractured. One of the most interesting and instructive features of this museum, is the photographic plates and illustrations, both life-size and microscopic. The specimens in the museum are all neatly mounted, labelled, and their histories, as far as possible, carefully preserved. We should think the work of the whole establishment was in good and faithful hands, and the profession have reason to expect much benefit from it in the future.

On Tuesday morning, all public places were closed, Pennsylvania Avenue thoroughly washed by the fire-engines, to prevent

dust, and the assembled thousands, from every part of the country, of all ages, colors, and sexes, began to gather in front of the Presidential mansion, and the streets leading to the Avenue, to witness the grand review of the old Army of the Potomac. Avoiding the thickest of the crowd, we (myself, wife and son) took our stand on Pennsylvania Avenue, near Capitol Hill, where, precisely at the appointed hour, we saw Major-General MEADE and full staff, as they swept around the Hill into the Avenue, and up towards the White House, followed by 75,000 cavalry, artillery, and infantry, with their martial music and banners, receiving the welcome shouts of the multitudes, and frequent presents of flowery wreaths from fair hands. The day was clear, the air pure and bracing, and we sat gazing with mingled emotions of awe and gratitude upon brigade after brigade of those war-worn and faithful defenders of their country, until the last man of that mighty column had passed, when, on noting the time, we found that it had been full five and a-half hours. The remainder of the day was spent in the Smithsonian Institute and around the public grounds.

The following morning, we again took up our position on Pennsylvania Avenue, to see the grand army made up of our Western boys make their hard-earned triumphal entry into the capital of the nation. Exactly at the moment specified in the general orders, the well-known form of Major-General W. T. SHERMAN was seen entering the Avenue at the foot of Capitol Hill, accompanied by his staff, all mounted on superb horses, closely followed by the body-guard and full band of music. Then came the dense column of veterans, twenty abreast, with bayonets glittering in the sun, their tattered colors flying, while the shouts of the hundreds of thousands of spectators were echoed and reëchoed from Capitol Hill to the White House. The enthusiasm and delight of the people, exhibited on Tuesday, was repeated and immensely increased as the noble army that had literally traversed the continent victoriously from Cairo to the Gulf, and from the Gulf to the Atlantic coast of the Carolinas, passed with firm and steady step, to pay their respects to the President and Lieutenant-General of the nation.

The grand and glorious spectacle of those two days has scarcely been equalled in the military history of the world.

To avoid the crowd which would certainly render all the evening railroad trains out of Washington uncomfortable, we hastened from the sublime spectacle in Pennsylvania Avenue to the 11 o'clock A.M. train for Philadelphia, where we arrived safely in the evening. While in Philadelphia, I visited the Meuter Museum, where I found an excellent building, sufficient to accommodate a good pathological and anatomical museum, a good library, and a pleasant lecture-room. It is under the management of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Philadelphia. In the library-rooms there is a pretty extensive and valuable collection of medical books, some of which are very ancient and rare. The articles in the museum, however, disappointed me both in number and quality. After visiting Laurel Hill, Girard College, and spending half-a-day profitably in the Museum or Hall of the Academy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia, we took our leave and started for New York, where we arrived on Saturday evening. Here, wishing chiefly to invigorate the physical system, and gratify the social feelings, we avoided scientific and professional matters as much as possible, and spent a week in trips to Staten Island, Coney Island, Central Park, &c., enlivened with the society of old friends.

As a meeting of the Academy of Medicine took place one evening during the week, we accepted an invitation to accompany one of its members. The subject for discussion was Pyæmia, on which an interesting paper had been read at a previous meeting, by Dr. KRACKOWITZER. A goodly number of members were in attendance, but they seemed to enter upon the discussion of the important subject before them with much reluctance. After considerable delay, the discussion was finally commenced by Dr. E. R. PEASELEE, and was continued by Drs. F. H. HAMILTON and B. F. BARKER. It was conceded by all the speakers, as well as by the paper of Dr. KRACKOWITZER, that the symptoms usually attributed to pyæmia are not produced by the absorption of *healthy* pus, but by some septic poison which may be developed by decomposition of pus, or, some-

times, without the presence of any perceptible suppurative action at all. Hence the name pyæmia was regarded as objectionable.

On Friday afternoon, we entered a steamer, bound for Providence. After a delightful trip through the East River, in full view of the islands containing the charitable and criminal institutions of the great commercial metropolis of the country, we entered the broader part of Long Island Sound, and the darkness of night shut the surrounding objects from view. On awakening from a good night's sleep, we were rapidly nearing Providence, where we passed directly into the rail-car, and arrived in Boston in time for an early breakfast. Here we find every preparation for a good meeting of the American Medical Association. And, as it is to be called to order at 10 o'clock A.M., I must close this letter. Yours truly, N. S. D.

—

American Medical Association.—The above letter, addressed to my colleague, Dr. Andrews, was intended to help fill up the editorial space in the June number of the Examiner. But my colleague had kindly filled the space, and had the whole number in type, before the letter was received.

The recent meeting of the Association at Boston, was one of the largest and most profitable that has ever been held. Over six hundred members were present. For earnestness in devotion to appropriate business; cordial friendship among members; and true social enjoyment, it may be said to have excelled all the previous meetings. The arrangements made by the local committee in Boston, were very judicious and liberal; the several sections were promptly organized, and commenced their work on the afternoon of the first day; and though the meetings of the Association were protracted to 1 o'clock P.M., of the fourth day, yet from the first to the last hour of the time, promptness, regularity, close attention, and perfect cordiality, characterized every step. The citizens and city authorities of Boston, were most liberal in their attentions to the Association. The local profession of Boston, the municipal authorities, and the Governor of the Commonwealth, are alike entitled to the

thanks of the whole profession, for their generous hospitality and judicious arrangements.—If there were any in the profession who imagined that the American Medical Association had lost its original vitality, and was doomed to a rapid decline, especially if *they* withheld *their* presence and influence, they cannot fail to see in the number, earnestness, and cordiality of the recent meeting in Boston, very clear evidence of their mistake. On the contrary, we think its career of usefulness and real activity has only just begun.

Surgeon-General Barnes and Homœopathy.—In a recent number of the *Medical and Surgical Reporter*, of Philadelphia, it was stated that at the recent meeting of the American Medical Association, resolutions were introduced censuring Surgeon-General Barnes, for having consulted with a homœopathic practitioner in the case of Secretary Seward, in Washington; and that after proper explanations they were withdrawn.

This is a mistake. No resolutions were introduced on the subject, and, of course, none were withdrawn. During the progress of the late meeting at Boston, a letter was received from Dr. W. H. Mussey, of Cincinnati, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, explaining that his absence from the meeting was on account of sickness in his family; and, incidentally, alluding to the alleged fact that the Surgeon-General of the U.S. A. had been in consultation with a homœopath in such a manner as to deserve severe censure. This letter, in accordance with the usual custom, was read to the meeting. That part of it relating to the Surgeon-General caused a representative from the Medical Department of the Army to rise and fully and *authoratatively* deny the truth of the allegations against that officer. This being entirely satisfactory to the Association, the subject was then dropped, as no formal question had been presented for the action of the meeting.

The New Dispensatory.—Physicians should observe that in the new Dispensatory the strength of many of the preparations is changed, a fact which needs to be carefully noticed in prescribing. In many respects the new preparations are superior to the old.

MORTALITY OF CHICAGO FOR MAY, 1865.—Furnished by the Assistant Health Officer, Matt. P. Riordan.

DISEASES.

Accident,	5	Bilious Fever,	5
Apoplexy,	1	Inflammation of Brain,	7
Burned,	1	Inflammation of Stomach,	1
Catarrh,	1	Inflammation of Bowels,	4
Congestion of Brain,	4	Inflammation of Lungs,	4
Congestion of Lungs,	2	Inflammation of Bladder,	1
Consumption,	32	Intemperance,	2
Croup,	17	Killed,	2
Cramps,	13	Lock Jaw,	1
Convulsions,	6	Measles,	2
Childbirth,	6	Marasmus,	1
Cancer of Stomach,	2	Old Age,	5
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis,	4	Poisoned,	1
Congestive Chills,	2	Paralysis,	2
Dysentery,	2	Pneumonia,	2
Diphtheria,	2	Rheumatism,	2
Disease of the Heart,	3	Small-Pox,	5
Dropsy,	6	Stillborn,	8
Diarrhœa,	9	Strangulated Hernia,	1
Erysipelas,	3	Teething,	6
Nervous Fever,	2	Unknown,	6
Scarlet Fever,	8	Water on Brain,	5
Typhoid Fever,	6	Worms,	3
Brain Fever,	6		
Spotted Fever,	1	Total,	229
Puerpural Fever,	1		

AGES OF THE DECEASED. — Under 5 years, 91; over 5 and under 10 years, 19; over 10 and under 20, 12; over 20 and under 30, 34; over 30 and under 40, 22; over 40 and under 50, 12; over 50 and under 60, 14; over 60 and under 70, 7; over 70 and under 80, 3; over 80 and under 90, 1; over 90 and under 100, 3; stillborn, 8; unknown, 3. Total, 229.

NATIVITIES.

Chicago,	107	Scotland,	1	Illinois,	3
Canada,	4	Sweden,	1	Other States,	41
Colored,	1	France,	1	Unknown,	2
Belgium,	0	Germany,	24	Wales,	1
England,	6	Holland,	1		
Ireland,	35	Norway,	1	Total,	229

DIVISIONS OF THE CITY.

North,	48	South,	88	West,	93	Total,	229

SMALL-POX.

North,	1	South,	2	West,	2	Total,	5

Total number of deaths in May, 1864,	309	Small-Pox,	30
Total number of deaths in April, 1865,	256	Small-Pox,	4

ELECTRICAL ANÆSTHESIA.—In a short article in the Lombardy *Gazette Medica*, March 13, an account is given of a demonstration made by Dr. Rodolfi, at the Brescia Hospital, in

the presence of a large number of medical practitioners, of the power of the electrical current to induce local anæsthesia. This is complete enough to admit of the execution of painless surgical operations, although it does not appear that any such have as yet been performed; and it is remarkable in its extreme duration, three days been spoken of as a common period. It seems that women (especially when nervous or hysterical) are more susceptible of its action than men, and it fails to produce any anæsthetic action in about 6 per cent. of the individuals submitted to it. In a case of a woman acted upon before the witnesses, anæsthesia of the hands began to be induced ten minutes after the application of a continuous current from a Bunsen's pile with six elements; and another woman was exhibited in whom complete anæsthesia had affected the whole surface above the diaphragm for three days. An hysterical subject manifested general anæsthesia, with paresis of movement of the limbs, and submitted to have her tongue traversed with a needle. In her case the anæsthesia continued from ten to fifteen days, gradually diminishing. The intellectual faculties continue in these cases quite undisturbed. In one of the cases experimented upon anæsthesia could not be induced, which Dr. Rodolfi attributes to the aversion the patient felt to the presence of so large a number of spectators.—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

A Simple Ophthalmoscope.—[*From the British Medical Journal.*]—Sir:—I find that if a convex lens of about two inches focus be placed in close apposition with a concave one of about nine inches focus, and this combination be held before the patient's eye, at the distance the object-lens of an ordinary ophthalmoscope usually is, it forms an ophthalmoscope, uniting in itself the reflecting and refracting elements of that instrument. For, whilst the light from a flame is reflected by two surfaces (the outer concave surface of the concave lens and the internal concave surface of the convex one) into the patient's eye, it is also, on its emergence therefrom, refracted by the effective convex element of the combination, so as to form the usual indirect image of the fundus oculi at the focal length. With such a rough combination, I have been able to obtain a distinct image of the optic nerve, retinal vessels, etc.; and I may hence not unreasonably hope a properly constructed meniscus will in itself fulfil the conditions of the mirror and object-lens of an ordinary ophthalmoscope.

I am, etc., J. Z. LAURENCE.

30 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, May 3d, 1864.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,
MEDICAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
Louisville, Kentucky, June 28th, 1865.

DOCTOR:—Will you please give notice, through the EXAMINER, that fifteen or twenty physicians are wanted in this army, to serve with the troops encamped about the city. They can be employed under contract, for at least three months, by applying in person at the Headquarters of the Army of the Tennessee, in Louisville, Ky.

Surgeons and assistant-surgeons, who have served in the field during the war, are anxious to return to their homes. Many have already left the service, making the demand for medical officers very great. Yours respectfully,

JNO. M. WOODWORTH,

PROF. N. S. DAVIS, *Med. Insp. Army of the Tennessee.*
Chicago, Ill.

P.S. The monthly compensation for medical officers under contract in the field, is $113,83 per month, and furnished with horse and equipments. The medical officer furnishes his own instruments. WOODWORTH.

HEALTH OF THE PACIFIC COAST.—As far as our knowledge extends, the health of this coast, for the last six months, has been uncommonly good. Malarious fevers, generally of a mild type, have prevailed endemically, to a slight extent, and diphtheria has dropt like a deadly meteor on a few localities, and then vanished. The season was very wet in the beginning, and very dry subsequently, but no morbific influence appears to have attended the climatic irregularity.

TREATMENT OF HYDROCELE.—Dr. William Jollie (Gateshead-on-Tyne) recommends the following plan, which he has followed for some years, and invariably with success, even after failure with port wine, &c.:—

"I tap the hydrocele by trocar and canula in the usual way, draw off the fluid, and then introduce through the canula into the cavity of the tunica vaginalis a common surgeon's probe, which has been previously coated, for an inch of its length, with nitrate of silver. I prepare the probe by heating the extremity to a dull red heat in the flame of a gaslight, and placing it in

a little finely-powdered nitrate of silver, and then again subjecting the probe to the heat, so as to form a smooth coating to the instrument. If your correspondent, and other surgeons, will make use of this method, they will, I have no doubt, quickly, effectually, and cheaply relieve their patients of a troublesome complaint."

WILL OLEUM TANACETI CAUSE ABORTION.—This question was discussed at a late meeting of the Buffalo Medical Association, as reported in the *Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal.* A woman who had used it died in consequence, and on inspection extensive peritonitis was exhibited, with purulent effusion. Other fatal cases were reported, and the general conclusion was that the agent had no specific effect on the uterus, and often destroyed life without producing abortion. The loss of the fœtus, when that takes place, was ascribed to the violence done to the organs generally by the poisonous drug.

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NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 10, 1860.

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THIRD. The joints, instead of being bushed with buckskin, which requires a renewal at the hands of the maker, when worn, are adjustable, and under the control of the wearer.

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FIFTH. The action of the springs can be increased or diminished at the option of the wearer, whereby each can adjust the motions of the leg to suit his own peculiar gait.

VALENTINE MOTT, M.D.
Emeritus Prof. of Surgery and Surgical Anatomy in the University of New York.